THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Lionel Messi scored for a 7th straight WC game as Argentina beat Jordan 3-1 | AP

Austria-Algeria 3-3; sixth goal for Messi

On a manic final day of the group stages of the World Cup, Austria-Algeria served up a feast before advancing at Iran's expense. Elsewhere, a Lionel Messi freekick meant the Argentine scored a sixth goal of his campaign already

TODAY'S MATCHES

Brazil vs Japan 10.30 PM; Germany vs Paraguay 2.00 AM*; Netherlands vs Morocco 6.30 AM* *IST Tuesday | P13

Let's make Indian Ocean an ocean of opportunity: Modi in Seychelles

Pacts on security, extradition, maritime cooperation, digital payments and health signed

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said that India envisions the Indian Ocean as an "ocean of opportunity" where maritime security goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity, as India and Seychelles elevated their strategic partnership by signing nine agreements, including an extradition treaty.

Addressing a joint press meet with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie after the wide-ranging talks, Modi said the Indian Ocean was a shared space.

"Our vision is to make the Indian Ocean an ocean of opportunity," Modi said, adding that its "security, sustainability and prosperity are our shared responsibility."

He said the approach formed the core of India's MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) vision. "The defence and security of India and Seychelles are integral to each other."

The two sides signed nine agreements on security, connectivity, health, agriculture, digital payments, maritime cooperation, space and capacity building. The key pact was an extradition treaty aimed at strengthening cooperation against cross-border crime.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi receives the 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' from Seychelles President Patrick Herminie in Seychelles on Sunday | PMO VIA PTI PHOTO

On economic cooperation, Modi said both countries would continue exploring new opportunities for industry and investment. "Work will also be done to enhance connectivity between India and Seychelles," he said, adding India would share its experience in digital public infrastructure.

President Herminie said maritime security remained central to bilateral ties, with both countries reaffirming commitment to combating piracy, drug trafficking, etc.

Earlier in the day, Modi was conferred Seychelles' highest honour for a foreign dignitary, the Special Presidential Distinction "Guardian of the Blue Horizon", in recognition of his leadership on sustainability, the Blue Economy, climate action and ocean governance.

WEST ASIA FLARE-UP

Iran attacks Bahrain, Kuwait after US strikes

AGENCIES

THE renewed flare up in the Gulf showed no signs of easing on Sunday with Iran launching drone and missile attacks targeting Bahrain and Kuwait hours after United States airstrikes hit the Islamic Republic.

Iran and the US have both accused the other of violating their fragile ceasefire, straining negotiations meant to end the war that began on February 28.

The US military said it had struck multiple targets in Iran at President Donald Trump's direction, adding "Iran had a chance to honor the ceasefire agreement" but "elected not to" when its forces attacked the oil tanker Kiku with a one-way drone.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said it carried out strikes against Kuwait and Bahrain in retaliation for US attacks, warning any further aggression would be met with a "crushing response". The Guards "destroyed eight important US military facilities at the Ali al-Salem base in Kuwait and at the Fifth Fleet naval base in Port Salman in Bahrain," they said in a statement.

Efforts to reopen the Strait of Hormuz without Iran's direct oversight sparked the crossfire. A multinational maritime body overseen by the US Navy said Saturday that it would expand a route near Oman for both inbound and outbound traffic.

Iran's top diplomat warned any attempt to bypass the Strait of Hormuz routes agreed with the US would "increase tensions" in the West Asia. P11

WAR WATCH

Gulf security framework

Iran on Sunday proposed a security framework that includes all Gulf states, without any interference from outside countries

A building in Bahrain damaged in an Iran drone attack | X

Lebanon attacked

Israel renewed its strikes on Lebanon on Sunday, Lebanese state media reported

Lawyers refuse to defend Ram temple fund scam accused

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

WHILE the Ayodhya police conducted raids on the houses of eight accused in the Ram temple donations case on Sunday, several lawyers in the temple town have refused to represent the accused.

Local sources said there is a growing sentiment within the Ayodhya legal fraternity against taking up the case to defend the accused. The issue is expected to be formally discussed, and a final decision will be taken at a general body meeting of the Faizabad Bar Association on Monday.

AYODHYA FUNDS ROW

Bar Association president Kalika Mishra said the unanimous refusal to represent the accused would be put before the Bar Association's general body meeting and a decision would be taken. Sources claimed the legal fraternity is angry over the alleged theft of offerings at the temple and has united in the demand for stern action against all eight accused.

"Stern action should be taken against these accused by adopting the bulldozer policy," senior advocate Rajendra Chaudhary said.

Bar Association secretary Shailendra Jaiswal said people's sentiments were hurt by the theft of temple offerings.

Will ban gutka if it has drugs: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday said the State Government will ban the sale of pan masala, gutka and similar chewing tobacco products if they are found to contain narcotic substances.

The CM said this at the 31st Foundation Day celebrations of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences and the Nasha Mukt Bharat Conclave at Kanteerava Stadium. P7

SIR data collection from Tuesday

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

THE involvement of citizens in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise will start from June 30 with the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Karnataka, commencing the door-to-door data collection.

From June 20, when SIR started in Karnataka, till date, the CEO office has printed over 11 crore forms, while the state has 5,55,74,064 voters. Each elector will get two sets of partially printed, customised forms, which they have to fill. One will be retained by the elector, after it is duly signed by the Booth Level Officer (BLO), and the second will be handed over to BLOs for filing and accounting.

To ensure that no voter is left out, election officials have listed phone numbers of BLOs and Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) on their website. Taking this a step ahead, election officials have decided that if a voter's house is locked for a long time, a sticker will be pasted on their door, which will have the contact details of BLOs. Citizens can then contact BLOs to get their enumeration forms.

"A person's enumeration forms will not be handed over to their neighbour or somebody else in their absence. It will only be given to the listed elector or authorised family members. A provision is also being made to slip the form into the house of the elector, in select instances. The enumeration forms will have the contact details of BLOs, whom the electors can contact and hand over the forms," said CEO Karnataka V Anbukkumar. P4

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ALMANAC TODAY
• **Monday:** 29.06.2026 • **Year:** Parabhava • **Ayana:** Uttharayana
• **Ritu:** Greeshma • **Masa:** Nija Jyeshta • **Paksha:** Sukla • **Tithi:** Purnima 4.07 am
• **Nakshatra:** Moola 3.36 am • Moon in Makara Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• **Gulikakala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER — MIN 21°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST Isolated tstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 05.56 am | Sunset 06.49 pm | Moonrise 06.30 pm | Moonset 05.05 am

CM lays foundation for city's 1st Tunnel Rd

₹1,130 crore project is aimed to be completed in 18 months

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday laid the foundation stone for Bengaluru's first tunnel road project, which is aimed at easing the traffic between the infamous Hebbal Junction and Mekhri Circle. The six-lane, bidirectional 2.2 km tunnel project, undertaken at Rs 1,139 crore, is expected to be completed in 18 months. The maximum speed in the tunnel will be 60km per hour, and it will be toll-free, the CM said.

The Congress-led state government has gone ahead with the project despite widespread opposition and warnings from mobility experts that tunnels would not solve Bengaluru's traffic congestion. The tunnel will start from Bellary Road–Hebbal Junction, pass under the railway bridge, Outer Ring Road and the veterinary college campus. It will end near the University of Agricultural Sciences staff quarters and will provide a signal-free corridor to those heading towards Kempegowda International Airport.

The chief minister said the project would be executed using cut-and-cover methodology, and the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) would fund it. He said the government is drawing up plans for the city for the next 50 years. He also said proposals have also been submitted for the North-South corridor of the tunnel road project connecting Hebbal with Silk Board and that it would be completed in three to four years. Slamming the Opposition parties who are against the tunnel road project, Shivakumar said they did not do anything to address the city's traffic problem when they were in power, but were now criticising his government's initiative. He also said that he was open to criticisms and feedback but would not bow to pressures.

SALIENT FEATURES

- It will be a six-lane (3+3) bi-directional tunnel, with a carriage width of 10.5 metres for three lanes
- To follow cut-and-cover tunnel, open-cut ramps, and cast-in-situ box structures
- To have a longitudinal tunnel ventilation system
- For safety, tunnel to have smoke detection, fire suppression, emergency evacuation and fire response systems
- To have CCTVs, public address system, emergency call network, tunnel radio and a voice-message system

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar along with ministers KJ George, Byrathi Suresh, Krishna Byre Gowda and BDA Chairman NA Haris takes part in the ground-breaking ceremony for the Tunnel Road project in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

₹1,139.7 crore for a 2.2 km tunnel. Bengaluru will soon find out whether this becomes an expensive band-aid for transferring gridlock from one junction to another or a useful piece of infrastructure. If it decongests Hebbal and wins public opinion, it could build support for more tunnels. If not, it may be remembered as a very costly, sub-optimal experiment

—Prasanna Vishwanathan, a netizen

Please prioritise constructing new roads in all congested areas in Bengaluru, and then go for tunnel roads. Many residents of Bengaluru, including those with back pain, disabled individuals, children and seniors, are suffering due to poor roads. Why is this issue not understood?

—Amith Kumar, social worker

IISc prof slams project, calls it a 'crazy idea'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AT a citizen-led event held in the city, Prof Ashish Verma, convenor, Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) Sustainable Transportation Lab, on Sunday strongly opposed the tunnel road and double-decker corridor projects, terming them "crazy ideas" that are counterproductive to Bengaluru's traffic woes.

The interactive session was organised by the Citizens Voluntary Initiative for the City (CIVIC) Bangalore and Bengaluru Praja Vedike in view of the Union government considering approval to the Phase 3 of Namma Metro, which proposes double-decker corridors for the simultaneous movement of Metros and motor vehicles.

"When one introduces a tunnel road or a double-decker corridor, the use of private transport increases. Having a Metro line and a roadway on the same vertical will obviously incentivise one to use private transport, as compared to the relatively slower Metro line. Instead of complementing the Metro services, the [road of the] double-decker competes with it," he said.

He pointed out this incentivisation of private transportation is also ill-timed, considering the limited access to sources of energy because of volatility at Strait of Hormuz. "With fuel prices increasing, what sense does it make to create infrastructure that creates dependency on private transportation," he asked.

According to research conducted by Verma's team at the IISc Sustainable Transportation Lab, building of the Tunnel Road and double-decker projects would mean a projected additional daily fuel consumption of around 7,000 litres, amounting to approximately Rs 6.45 lakh, for the city. About 85.9 kg of Carbon Monoxide (CO), and about 1.1 kg of particulate matter (PM) 2.5 would be released in excess as a consequence, he said.

The research conducted by the lab concludes that each double-decker corridor would cost BMRCL Rs 2,863.54 crore in excess, over a standard Metro corridor.

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and BDA Chairman NA Haris show the Guinness World Record certificate received on Sunday | EXPRESS

BDA's 15L sapling plantation drive sets world record

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday received the Guinness World Record certificate for the largest number of saplings planted in a day – 15 lakh – on the 517th birth anniversary of Bengaluru founder Nadaprabhu Kempegowda on Saturday. The certificate was handed over to the CM by Guinness World Records Adjudicator Rishi Nath in the presence of Minister for Bengaluru Development Krishna Byre Gowda.

The Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) said the drive was one of the largest coordinated urban green initiatives ever undertaken with the largest number of saplings planted by a team in 12 hours at multiple venues.

Shivakumar said, "This is not my achievement alone. It is the achievement of all the ministers of the government, the public, students and various associations and institutions. My salutations to everyone."

The plantation drive covered major BDA-developed areas, including Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, Banashankari 6th Stage, Shivarama Karanth Layout, Oxygen Tree Parks, Miyawaki forest zones and other identified green spaces, with scientifically selected native species planted.

The initiative is part of the Bengaluru Urban Ecological Restoration Mission 2026-30, a press release stated.

Layout	Target	Planted	% Achieved
NPKL	6,90,000	6,77,500	98.18%
DSKL	7,05,000	7,12,250	101.03%
BSKL	1,05,000	1,05,800	100.76%
Total	**15,00,000**	**14,95,550**	**99.70%**

A tombstone of scientific urban planning: Tejasvi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

"MR Chief Minister, you have not laid a foundation stone today. You have laid the tombstone of scientific urban planning in Bengaluru," said Bengaluru South MP **Tejasvi Surya**, registering his opposition to the short tunnel project between Hebbal and Mekhri Circle.

Replying to Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's post on the foundation stone laying programme, Surya on Sunday called the Rs 1,139 crore, 2-km tunnel project an unscientific solution that will fail to address Bengaluru's traffic problems. He said the Detailed Project Report (DPR) admits that the tunnel will be saturated from the very first day of operation. "Not five years later. Not 10 years later. Day One. If the project's own report says it will begin its life in a traffic jam, then who exactly is this project for? Certainly not commuters," he said.

He said the perception among Bengalureans is that the project benefits a privileged few, while the entire city bears the cost. "This project seems designed to make life easier for a privileged few, the VIPs of Sadashivanagar, including the chief minister and the city's elite who use this corridor to reach the airport, while ordinary taxpayers across Bengaluru foot the bill," he added.

"Undoubtedly, the primary beneficiaries of this project will be the contractors who will reroute large kickbacks to the Congress' funds," he alleged.

He reiterated that the government should instead prioritise public transport and fast-track the proposed Red Line Metro corridor. "If the government genuinely wanted to reduce congestion, it would have fast-tracked the Red Line Metro. Public transport is the only proven long-term solution for Bengaluru. Flyovers have failed. Tunnels will fail too," he said.

He noted that Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda has repeatedly argued that short flyovers cannot solve congestion. "Then how does a short tunnel suddenly become the answer? Bengaluru deserves an explanation. If the minister cannot stand up to oppose such unscientific projects, then nothing has changed in the city's approach to development," he said.

The short tunnel will not become a gateway to a much larger tunnel project, and they will oppose every such attempt. "Bengaluru needs more Metro routes, more buses, better suburban rail and better urban planning, not expensive monuments of failed thinking," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Shaw proposes green alternative for B'luru infra

Bengaluru: Entrepreneur Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, taking to X, showed what could have been for Bengaluru if the city had focused on walkable footpaths, bike lanes and an increase in greenery. She said the "Garden City" has instead become a "garbage city". Posting two AI-generated images of the same road on the social media platform, Shaw highlighted that the current approach of road development led to removal of trees, removal of a service road, lack of a footpath and lack of street amenities such as seating and lighting. **ENS**

Local residents clean a stretch of Bannerghatta Road on Sunday | EXPRESS

Civic apathy forces B'ghatta Road residents get their hands dirty

SHAMA VISHWANTHAR @ Bengaluru

OWING to the failure of multiple efforts in getting civic authorities to clear a debris- and garbage-ridden area on Bannerghatta Road, residents took to resolving the issue by themselves.

The community clean-up drive, a joint initiative by local residents and Bengaluru Navanirmana Party (BNP), was held on Saturday, on the occasion of Nadaprabhu Kempe Gowda Jayanti. More than 50 residents cleared a 600-metre stretch of land from Meenakshi Temple to Meenakshi Greens.

The main road near the Temple was plagued by garbage, debris and encroachment for months, contributing to pollution, safety risks and creating difficulties for movement of pedestrians and motorists alike. Despite repeated complaints and appeals to multiple officers, including the assistant executive engineer of Arakere Ward, no action was taken to fix the issue. This frustration led to the residents resolving the issue themselves.

Poongothai, a BNP leader, said, "Many letters were written to officials since February, but owing to their inaction, the issue had to be resolved through citizens' participation. It was a three-day effort from Friday. We also removed flex boards on electric poles, fixed chamber cover issues and are trying to work on it further with Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB)."

Joshua Sinto, a local resident, said authorities refused to address the issue, saying stating that the stretch comes under two different wards – Arakere and Gottigere.

BNP ward leader Monika said, "Is it the duty of citizens to constantly chase officers for every single task? If this is the condition of a main road, what is the state of interior lanes and bylanes?"

Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

29th June : Sweet Strawberry Moon Ancient peoples named this moon for a brief season of ripeness, when berries could be gathered from the fields. The Strawberry Moon shines over Capricorn territory, illuminating what has matured through patience and time. This is not the dessert of luck but of ripeness. The fruit is ready because the season is right. Even Mercury's retrograde cannot stop this sweetness from finding its way into your hands.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Glowing in you: gratitude. It's often mistaken for a pleasant feeling, when it is actually a powerful way of directing attention. What you appreciate becomes more abundant. Especially sweet: a friendship that has stood the test of time.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
Glowing in you: hope. Not wishful thinking, but a practical belief that tomorrow can be better than today. You keep moving forward. Especially sweet: encouragement from someone who not only believes you can do it but will help however possible.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
Glowing in you: discernment. You no longer feel compelled to pursue every opportunity that appears. Knowing what to decline creates more room for what matters to you. Especially sweet: the freedom that comes from a clear choice.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
Glowing in you: curiosity. Questions lead you further than certainty ever could. A willingness to learn opens doors, reveals opportunities and keeps life interesting. Especially sweet: an unexpected conversation that expands your world.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
Glowing in you: adaptability. When plans change, you find another route instead of becoming stuck. Flexibility turns obstacles into detours rather than dead ends. Especially sweet: a solution that appears through improvisation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Glowing in you: humor. You can spot the absurdity in situations that might otherwise become frustrating. This gift keeps challenges from growing larger than they need to be. Especially sweet: laughter shared with someone you love.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
Glowing in you: confidence. Not the loud kind, but the steady belief that you can handle whatever comes next. This changes how people respond to you. Especially sweet: being trusted with greater responsibility.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
Glowing in you: compassion. You recognize that most people are carrying burdens that remain unseen. This awareness helps you move through the world with grace and perspective. Especially sweet: a shared understanding that's genuine and rare.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
Glowing in you: creativity. You see possibilities where others see limitations. Ideas connect, combine and evolve into something useful, beautiful or entertaining. Especially sweet: a project that takes on a life of its own.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
Glowing in you: emotional maturity. It shows up in how easily you connect with people and how you're able to build lasting relationships. Especially sweet: the rhythms and routines you build with others resulting in a true feeling of togetherness and belonging.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
Glowing in you: focus. Distractions lose some of their appeal as you become more interested in meaningful progress. Your efforts gather momentum. Especially sweet: finally finishing something that has been lingering a long while on your list.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
Glowing in you: patience. You understand that many worthwhile things require time. Instead of forcing results, you allow growth to unfold at its natural pace. Especially sweet: a long-awaited development finally taking shape.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle ⬇

6							4	9
	7		1			2		
	4	3	9	2				7
		2						1
	6						8	
5						4		
4				8	9	6	5	
		9			2		1	
2	3							8

9	1	2	8	5	7	6	4	3
4	3	7	1	9	6	2	8	5
8	6	5	4	2	3	7	1	9
2	5	1	6	3	4	8	9	7
6	7	8	9	1	5	3	2	4
3	4	9	2	7	8	5	6	1
1	8	3	5	4	2	9	7	6
7	9	6	3	8	1	4	5	2
5	2	4	7	6	9	1	3	8

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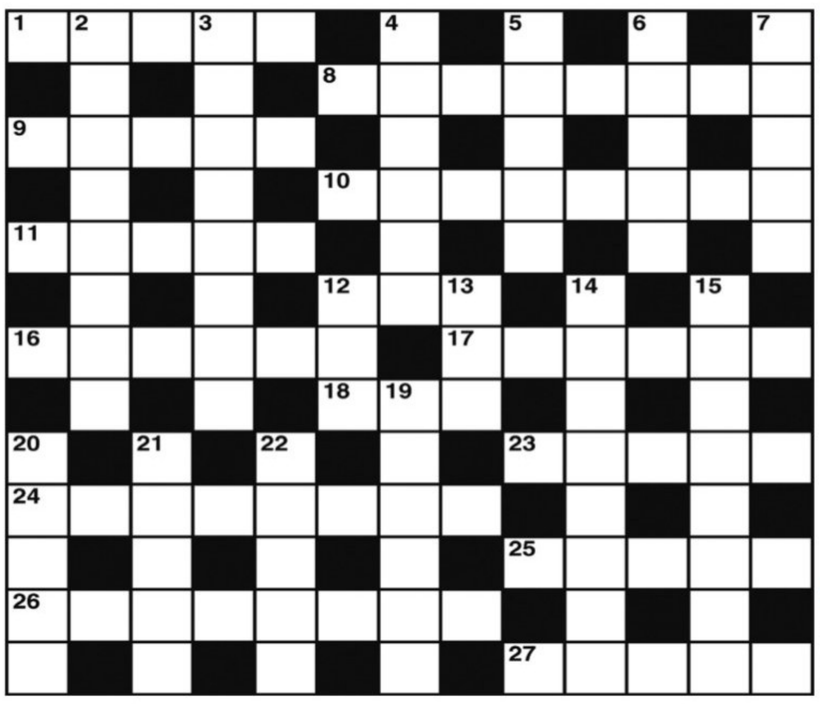
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 An alternative to the German system (5)
8 Start blazing away - one hopes it will do that (4,4)
9 Bar in which poets may be found (5)
10 Defective hearing (8)
11 Trail used by a tank (5)
12 Silver article for the Turkish leader (3)
16 This engine conks out on half fuel (6)
17 More than one rock group? (6)
18 A record goes round and round (3)
23 French word to be added to the slogan (5)
24 Scratch game (8)
25 Capital jewellery (5)
26 Tales of the Camerons in trouble (8)
27 One team play may contain it (5)

DOWN
2 Control new terrains (8)
3 He aims to put a ban on spirits (8)
4 Bound to move suddenly (6)
5 She's in sanitation (5)
6 It's the absolute end! I'm about to be fired (5)
7 Stops animals swimming in the sea (5)
12 A couple of pounds for the lot (3)
13 Cleopatra's preparations for death included it (3)
14 No societies for unimportant persons (8)
15 Shakespearean clown flushed and corrupted (8)
19 They fight with one another (6)
20 Employers require faultless service in the US (5)
21 Prepare to fire first (5)
22 Hard wood fashioned by one (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Waterfalls, 6 Pair, 10 Avoid, 11 Enamoured, 12 Aptitude, 13 Mason, 15 Adheres, 17 Satchel, 19 Repasts, 21 Foreign, 22 Franc, 24 Annalist, 27 Accordion, 28 Voice, 29 Stag, 30 Celebrated.

Down: 1 Wrap, 2 Troopship, 3 Radii, 4 Avenues, 5 Loafers, 7 Arras, 8 Rod and line, 9 Commuter, 14 Pair of oars, 16 Rest cure, 18 Hair shirt, 20 Sea mile, 21 Finance, 23 Accra, 25 Lover, 26 Lead.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

LTEFE

TYNER

HTTSIR

EBRAYK

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here: _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: ADAPT OBESE CHERRY HIDDEN
Answer: The policeman who breezed through the radar gun's manual was a — SPEED READER

"The appeasement, vote-bank politics of Cong government have now reached a stage where they threaten the very existence of the state's farmers

BY Vijayendra, BJP state president

Caught on cam: Man carries child in bike side bag, fined

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @Gadag

A shocking incident in Gadag has triggered widespread outrage after a father was caught carrying his young child inside the side bag of a motorcycle, treating the storage compartment like a passenger seat. The incident, which occurred on Thursday, came to light after photos and videos of the dangerous ride went viral on social media.

What are normally used to carry documents, groceries and small household items became an unlikely and alarming spot for a child. Witnesses were stunned to see the youngster crammed inside the bike's side bag, with only the child's head visible above the compartment as the motorcycle moved through city traffic.

According to eyewitnesses, the biker was travelling from Tipu Circle towards the Deputy Commissioner's office when passers-by noticed the unusual and risky arrangement. Several people reportedly warned the father about the danger, but he appeared unconcerned and continued his journey.

The disturbing visuals quickly spread across social media platforms, drawing criticism from users who described the act as reckless and irresponsible. Many questioned how a parent could expose a child to such an obvious safety risk.

The child seated inside the side bag of a motorcycle in Gadag | EXPRESS

Acting quickly after the images went viral, Gadag police traced the rider using the motorcycle's registration number and summoned him for questioning. During the inquiry, the man reportedly claimed he had been carrying the child while travelling to and from the market.

The explanation, however, did little to convince authorities. Police imposed a fine on the rider and issued a stern warning, stressing that the safety of children can never be compromised under any circumstances. Officials noted that even a minor imbalance, sudden brake or collision could have resulted in a tragedy.

Local resident Girish Katti, who lives near Tipu Circle, welcomed the police action. "It is good that the police imposed a heavy fine and strictly warned him. People were angry after seeing the video because even a small mistake could have put the child's life in serious danger," he said.

Police officials described the incident as not only a violation of traffic regulations but also a major child-safety concern. "This is a serious offence under motor vehicle regulations and from the perspective of child safety. We have been repeatedly creating awareness about road safety, but some people continue to ignore it," an official said.

The incident has once again highlighted the need for greater awareness about child safety on roads, with many citizens urging parents to act responsibly and never place convenience above a child's well-being.

Denied money for liquor, 29-yr-old-man ends life

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 29-year-old man allegedly died by suicide after coming under a moving garbage truck after his mother refused to give him money to buy alcohol. The incident occurred near CK Palya Road under the Hulimavu police limits in the early hours of Saturday.

The deceased, Siddaraju (29), was from Surpur taluk of Yadgir district. He was living with his mother, who works as a helper at a private school in Bengaluru.

HELPLINE

If you are having suicidal thoughts, or are worried about a friend or need emotional support, someone is always there to listen. Call Sneha Foundation - 04424640050, Tele Manas - 14416 (available 24x7), Cadabams : 97414 76476 (available 24x7)

The police initially suspected the incident to be a road accident.

However, the investigation and CCTV footage from the area showed that Siddaraju intentionally came under the rear wheel of the moving garbage truck, resulting in his death.

He was unemployed and addicted to alcohol despite repeated attempts by his family to help him overcome the habit. On Friday night, around 11 pm, he allegedly asked his mother for money to buy liquor. When she refused and advised him to quit drinking, he became upset and left the house.

The police said he later approached a few friends seeking money, but none of them gave him any. He then wandered around the area before reaching CK Palya Road. Around 3 am, he allegedly came under the rear wheel of the garbage truck and died on the spot.

DUSTY AFFAIR

Dust from a damaged road has been causing air pollution and poor visibility at Lal Bahadur Shastri Nagar in Anjanapura. As the stretch connects residential areas and schools, it is an unavoidable route for many commuters | KEVIN NASHON

EXPRESS READ

Rowdy-sheeter murdered near Indira Gandhi Circle

Bengaluru: JP Nagar police have launched a manhunt for a group of assailants who allegedly murdered a rowdy-sheeter near the busy Indira Gandhi Circle at around 5.30pm on Saturday. Police suspect that an old rivalry was the motive behind the murder. The deceased, identified as Raja, a resident of Pragathipuram, was walking towards a roadside tea stall near Indira Gandhi Circle when four to five armed assailants intercepted him. They allegedly attacked him with machetes and other sharp weapons before fleeing. **ENS**

12 minibuses seized for duplicate registration numbers, two arrested

Bengaluru: Electronics City police arrested two men, including a minibus owner, for allegedly operating multiple minibuses using the same registration number to evade road tax and other statutory levies. Twelve minibuses were seized. The accused are Syed Nazeer (40) and Nagaraj (52), a transport operator from Anekal. The racket was exposed on June 23 during a routine patrol when officers spotted two minibuses displaying the same registration number, KA-51-B-5959, within minutes of each other. **ENS**

Fertility experts warn of declining ovarian reserve in women in their 20s

GAYATHRI M KURUP @Bengaluru

A growing number of women in Bengaluru are being diagnosed with low ovarian reserve in their late 20s and early 30s, prompting fertility specialists to call for greater awareness and earlier reproductive health assessments. Experts say the trend, once more commonly observed among women in their mid-to-late 30s, is now emerging at younger ages, particularly as marriage and childbearing are increasingly delayed.

Low ovarian reserve refers to a lower-than-expected number of eggs in a woman's ovaries for her age. As women are born with a finite number of eggs, the reserve naturally declines over time. Fertility experts, however, caution that while the condition does not necessarily lead to infertility, it can significantly shorten the window for conception.

According to Dr Anupama Ashok, Senior Consultant and Fertility Expert at Motherhood Fertility & IVF, observations from women aged 28 to 35 undergoing fertility evaluations showed that around 30–50 per cent had Anti-Müllerian Hormone levels below 2 ng/mL, while 14–26 per cent recorded levels below 1 ng/mL, both of which indicate reduced ovarian reserve. She added that fertility clinics are increasingly detecting declining ovarian reserve among younger women compared with a decade ago.

Experts attribute the trend primarily to genetic factors, although lifestyle habits such as smoking, alcohol consumption, poor diet, chronic stress and lack of exercise may accelerate the decline. Medical conditions, including endometriosis, autoimmune disorders chemotherapy and radiation therapy, can also adversely affect ovarian reserve. Dr Apurva Satish Amarnath, Fertility Specialist at Nova IVF Fertility, said one of the biggest challenges is that low ovarian reserve often develops without noticeable symptoms. "Regular cycles do not indicate normal fertility," she said, adding that many women discover the condition only during fertility evaluations.

Dr Kavya D. Sharma, Consultant in Reproductive Medicine at Milann Fertility and Birthing Hospital, said both egg quantity and quality decline after the age of 30, with decline accelerating after 35. She added that advanced maternal age is associated with a higher risk of miscarriage, chromosomal abnormalities, pregnancy-induced hypertension and gestational diabetes.

Bridging Progress
Strengthening Rail Connectivity

We are committed to building infrastructure that is safe, sustainable, and accessible for all.
- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Dedication to the Nation of
Road Over Bridge at Yelekeri Gate, Channapatna

&

Flagging off of
Coimbatore - Mumbai Express
with provision of additional stoppage at
Yelahanka Railway Station

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by
V. Somanna
Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti

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POSTS OF THE DAY

DK Shivakumar @DKShivakumar

The strength of a nation rests on the dignity, welfare, and rights of its workers. Glad to address the 316th All India Working Committee Meeting of the Indian National Trade Union Congress in Bengaluru

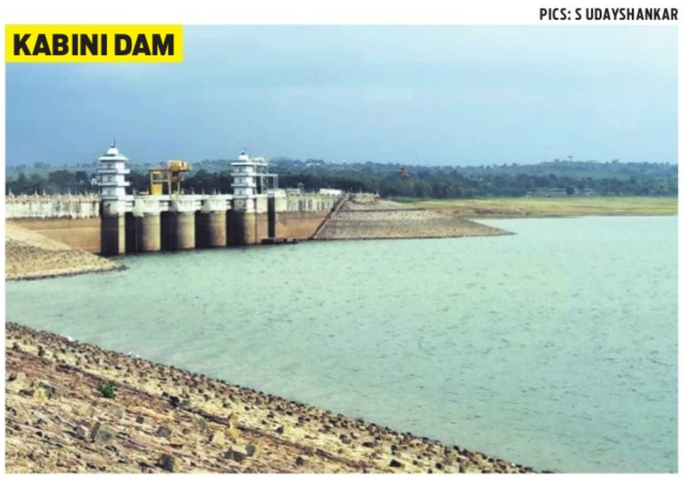
R Ashoka @RAshokaBJP

Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi has been conferred Seychelles' highest environmental honour, 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon', recognising his visionary leadership

PICS: S UDAYSHANKAR

KRS DAM

KABINI DAM

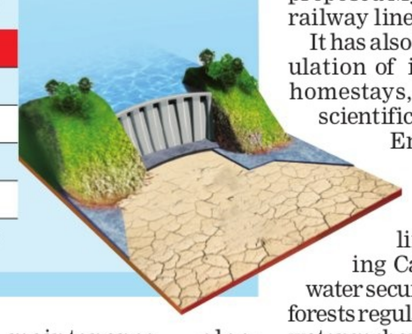


FUTURE TENSE FOR CAUVERY & KABINI

Reducing water availability and rising pollution are endangering the Cauvery river system. Citizen participation, apart from intervention from state agencies, is needed to preserve the lifeline of southern Karnataka

Reservoir Level (as on June 28)

	KRS	Kabini
Full	124.80 ft	2,284 ft
Current	81.05 ft	2,253.13 ft
Previous year	NA	2,279.44ft
Inflow	573 cusecs	624 cusecs
Outflow	433 cusecs	700 cusecs



KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

THE Cauvery river system, the lifeline of southern Karnataka, is facing a twin crisis that is becoming increasingly difficult to ignore. While pollution from untreated sewage, industrial effluents and unregulated tourism continues to degrade water quality, reservoirs that sustain millions of people are witnessing alarming drops in storage levels due to weak monsoon inflows and changing rainfall patterns.

The deterioration is evident in two of the river basin's most important reservoirs, the Kabini dam in Mysuru district and Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) dam in Mandya district. Together, they supply drinking water to Mysuru and Bengaluru, irrigate thousands of hectares of farmland and sustain rich biodiversity. But environmentalists warn that unless immediate corrective measures are taken, Karnataka could face serious challenges in ensuring clean water security in the years ahead.

Kabini backwaters becoming a dumping ground

One of the most worrying developments has emerged from the Kabini backwaters, a globally known eco-tourism destination bordering Nagarahole Tiger Reserve.

The Assistant Executive Engineer of the Kabini Dam has written to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and police, seeking action against alleged dumping of waste by resorts, homestays, bars and hotels operating around the reservoir.

As per the letter dated June 20, a copy of which is available with TNIE, commercial establishments situated along the reservoir are allegedly disposing of solid waste and untreated liquid waste into the backwaters and surrounding areas without scientific treatment.

The authorities have sought inspections of tourism establishments to verify whether they possess functional waste management systems and sewage treatment facilities. They have also urged officials to initiate stringent legal action against violators.

Kabini backwaters are home to fish, reptiles, migratory birds and wildlife that depend on the reservoir ecosystem. Local communities also depend on boating, fishing and tourism for their livelihoods. Environmental experts warn that accumulation of plastics, food waste and sewage can alter water chemistry, reduce dissolved oxygen and damage aquatic biodiversity.

Though KSPCB regularly monitors river water quality through several stations across the Cauvery basin, environmentalists say that alone is not sufficient, unless it is backed by strict enforcement and timely corrective measures.

BIG PICTURE

KRS also under pressure

The Krishna Raja Sagar reservoir, one of Karnataka's most important water sources, faces similar concerns. Water quality is monitored at multiple locations, including KRS, Srirangapatna, Kushalnagar, Maddur, Mandya, KR Nagar and Hunsur.

Experts point out that pollutants entering the Cauvery upstream eventually accumulate within reservoirs where water remains stored for longer durations. Organic pollutants, nutrient loading and suspended solids affect reservoir ecology and increase treatment costs for drinking water utilities.

With KRS supplying drinking water to Mysuru, Mandya, Bengaluru and several towns, maintaining water quality has become as important as ensuring adequate storage.

Water levels witness worrying decline

Adding to pollution concerns is the sharp decline in reservoir levels this year. Both Kabini and KRS have recorded significantly lower storage compared to previous years due to delayed and deficient monsoon in their catchment areas.

Environmental scientists warn that lower storage volumes reduce the river's natural ability to dilute pollutants. As water quantity decreases while sewage inflow remains constant, contaminant concentrations increase, affecting overall water quality.

Reduced inflows also result in stagnation, promoting algal blooms and bacterial growth, particularly where untreated sewage enters reservoirs.

The combination of shrinking water availability and rising pollution creates a dangerous cycle that threatens drinking water supplies, agriculture and ecosystems simultaneously.

Pollution's hidden costs

The consequences of river pollution extend far beyond dirty water. Untreated sewage introduces harmful bacteria, viruses and parasites capable of causing diarrhoea, cholera, typhoid and other water-borne diseases.

Excess nutrients from sewage and agricultural runoff trigger eutrophication, leading to explosive growth of algae. As algae decompose, oxygen levels decline, killing fish and other aquatic organisms.

Industrial effluents often contain heavy metals and toxic chemicals that accumulate in sediments and aquatic organisms, entering the food chain over time.

Polluted reservoirs also increase operational costs for water treatment plants, forcing municipalities to spend more public money on purification before water becomes fit for consumption.

For farmers, poor water quality affects soil health and crop productivity over time, while tourism suffers when iconic destinations lose their ecological appeal.

Save Kabini Forum raises alarm

Advocate Ravi Kumar, spearheading the Save Kabini Forum, has repeatedly raised concerns over pollution in the Kabini river and backwaters. He said illegal discharge of untreated sewage and improper waste disposal by certain resorts and commercial establishments threaten both wildlife habitats and drinking water security.

He demanded a periodic inspection of resorts, mandatory installation and operation of sewage treatment plants, GPS-based monitoring of waste disposal and criminal prosecution of establishments found violating environmental norms. He also called upon authorities to involve local communities in protecting the reservoir through regular vigilance and reporting mechanisms. "The Kabini reservoir is not merely a tourist destination; it is a drinking water source, a wildlife habitat and an ecological asset. Protecting it should become a collective responsibility of the government, local bodies and citizens," he said.

What is the status of sewage treatment?

While Mysuru city has expanded its sewage treatment infrastructure over the years, environmentalists argue that treatment capacity and operational efficiency remain uneven across the basin. Many smaller towns continue to release partially treated or untreated sewage directly into streams that ultimately join the Cauvery system.

Similarly, numerous resorts and homestays located in rural areas either lack adequate sewage treatment facilities or fail to operate them consistently. Officials admit that even where sewage treatment plants (STPs) exist, maintenance, electricity shortages, poor monitoring and illegal bypass connections often reduce their effectiveness.

Experts believe that merely constructing STPs will not solve the problem unless treated water quality is continuously monitored and compliance strictly enforced.

Awareness remains equally important

Experts caution that enforcement alone cannot protect rivers unless citizens participate actively. Public awareness campaigns should encourage segregation of waste, discourage dumping into lakes and streams and promote responsible tourism.

Hotels and resorts must educate visitors regarding environmentally responsible practices, while schools can incorporate river conservation into environmental education programmes.

Religious organisations, farmer groups and local communities can play an important role in protecting riverbanks through periodic clean-up drives and monitoring illegal dumping. Citizen reporting through mobile applications and dedicated environmental helplines could also improve vigilance.

Kodagu's ecological future linked to Cauvery

The Kodagu and Cauvery Protection Forum has urged the state government to accord special environmental protection to Kodagu, the birthplace of the Cauvery.

Forum Convenor, Col (Retd) CP Muthanna, described Kodagu as Karnataka's "Green Gold Reserve" and demanded that the region be declared a Green Safety Corridor to prevent large-scale deforestation, indiscriminate construction and environmentally damaging development projects.

The Forum has opposed projects it believes could threaten Kodagu's fragile ecology, including certain large housing developments and the proposed Mysore-Kushalnagar railway line.

It has also sought stricter regulation of illegal resorts and homestays, while advocating scientific limits on tourism.

Environmentalists agree that protecting forests in Kodagu is directly linked to safeguarding Cauvery's long-term water security because healthy forests regulate rainfall, groundwater recharge and river flows.

Protecting Karnataka's lifeline

The challenges confronting the Cauvery basin are no longer isolated environmental issues but matters of public health, economic security and climate resilience. The pollution of Kabini and KRS, shrinking reservoir levels, expanding tourism pressure and inadequate waste management together highlight the urgent need for integrated river basin management.

Experts believe that Karnataka must simultaneously strengthen sewage treatment, strictly enforce pollution control laws, regulate tourism in ecologically sensitive regions, restore forests in the upper catchments and encourage public participation in river conservation.

Without immediate intervention, the Cauvery's declining health could compromise drinking water supplies, agriculture, biodiversity and livelihoods for millions who depend on Karnataka's most important river system.

POLITICAL THEATRE

CM seeks fair probe into Ram Temple donation misuse

Bengaluru: Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has expressed concern over the alleged misappropriation of donations to the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, describing it as deeply disturbing. In a statement, Shivakumar said the offerings were made with faith, devotion and sacrifice by millions of Indians, with every contribution reflecting the trust of devotees in a sacred cause. He said any breach of that trust amounts to a betrayal of not only public faith but also the values that religious institutions are expected to uphold. Shivakumar stressed that matters relating to places of worship and public donations must be governed by the highest standards of transparency and accountability. Calling for an impartial investigation, he said every person found responsible, irrespective of position or influence, must be brought to justice. He added that only such action would restore the confidence of millions of devotees and reaffirm that faith can never be exploited for private gain. **ENS**

Hariprasad says BJP-RSS following Ghazni footsteps, looting temples

Bengaluru: KPCC president BK Hariprasad alleged that crores of rupees donated by businessman Mukesh Ambani to the Ram Mandir Trust in Ayodhya is unaccounted for. He demanded an independent investigation into it, led by a sitting or retired Supreme Court judge. Speaking to reporters at the KPCC office on Saturday evening, he lashed out at Union minister Pralhad Joshi for his remark that there was no need for the trust to give an account of the donations. "It was Modi who said 'Na khaunga, na khane dunga' (neither will I be corrupt, nor will I allow corruption). That means he is speaking against Modi's PMO. It is the PMO which is seeking accounts from the trust ... and Joshi is supporting the trust, which means he is also a party to this loot," he said. "The only coincidence we see here is that in the 12th century, Mahmud Ghazni was known for looting temples. The only other example we see is BJP and RSS Hindutva goons looting temples." **ENS**

Anti-SIR coalition to protest on June 30

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

Anti-SIR organisations have planned protests at district and taluk headquarters on Tuesday, when the door-to-door data collection kicks off across Karnataka.

In a statement on Sunday, the forums claimed that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is "unconstitutional, unscientific, flawed and malicious".

J M Veerasangaiah and K L Ashok, office-bearers of the anti-SIR coalition, said protests were held on May 30 and June 20 demanding that the Election Commission of India (ECI) respond to four of their major demands to democratise the SIR process.

The demands are: The ECI should not use logical discrepancy software in Karnataka that is not in the election manual, the draft voter list should be made available for public scrutiny in village/ward meetings, the draft voter list should be provided in a readable format and a minimum of six months should be given to submit petitions and objections.

The activists said the ECI has not responded the demands so far. "On Tuesday, we will protest by wearing black cloth and holding anti-SIR placards not only at district and taluk centres but also at work, residential places and in front of houses," they said. They informed that they are also starting a campaign to form 'Vote Guard Committees' in gram panchayats and wards under the slogan 'Our Village is Our Responsibility' and 'Our Area is Our Responsibility'.

BLOs to call up residents if not found at home

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CHIEF Electoral Officer (CEO) V Anbukkumar said BLOs will also contact electors if they are not found at their registered address at the time of door-to-door visit. These calls will be made by BLOs from their registered numbers and not any call centre. With this, citizens will also be aware of BLO's details. Each form has a QR code, which is customised for each elector with all his/her data. At the time of submitting the form, citizens can share any of the 11 authorised identity proofs, approved by the state and Central governments.

This is the ninth time SIR is being conducted, while the last was in 2002. The Election Commission is using the 2002 database and 2023 electoral data for the 2026 SIR exercise. In 2002, Karnataka had three crore electors.

Election officials said that no uniform method of operations is being followed in Karnataka for approaching electors. EROs and BLOs will take the decision on the spot. From June 30, electors, BLOs and EROs have 30 days to ensure the enumeration forms are filled up and submitted back to BLOs. Deputy commissioners, municipal commissioners, panchayat heads and other authorised heads have been assigned the task of ensure SIR is conducted unhindered, election officials added.

As per data from the CEO Karnataka office, so far 91.56% mapping has been done. This is the second highest in India after Odisha, where 93% had been completed. In Karnataka, it will clock 94% if the Greater Bengaluru Authority limits are excluded. In GBA limits, 75% mapping has been completed.

Officials said that mapping will continue during the door-to-door data collection till draft electoral rolls are published on August 5, 2026.

During a recent video-conference with registered political parties, 160 people participated. In all, there are 59,050 BLOs and 6,000 BLO supervisors. There are also 72,058 Booth Level Agents (BLAs) deployed by registered political parties.

Election officials asserted that during SIR and till the final electoral rolls are published, on October 7, 2026, the special summary revision exercise will be halted. However, BLOs will carry Form 6 with them to enrol new electors. Dedicated voter facilitation centres have also been set up at ward and panchayat level to assist electors. Dedicated BLO facilitation centres have been set up for election staffers to tabulate and upload the enumeration forms on the Election Commission website.

How SIR will unfold

- **JUNE 20-29:** Preparation, printing & training
- **JUNE 30-JULY 29:** House-to-house visit by BLOs
- **AUG 5:** Publication of draft electoral roll
- **AUG 5-SEPT 4:** Filing claims & objections
- **AUG 5-SEPT 3:** Disposal of claims & objections
- **SEPT 7:** Publication of final electoral roll

Bidadi Township row: HDK still open to talks with CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UNION Minister and JDS state president H D Kumarswamy on Sunday asserted that he has kept the option open to hold talks with Chief Minister D K Shivakumar in the presence of farmers on the Bidadi Township project and warned that the JDS will resort to a legal fight if the Congress government goes ahead with the project.

"I am still ready to sit with farmers and discuss the Bidadi township crisis. If the chief minister comes, I will also come," he told reporters.

He said the CM has not yet responded to his letter about the hardships of the Bidadi farmers. "When I called him to sit with farmers and discuss the matter, he did not come. I am still ready, the Bidadi problem should be discussed along with the farmers. Instead of doing that, they are bringing people who are not related to the Bidadi area from outside and protesting," Kumaraswamy said.

He claimed that the CM is more interested in real estate business than that of farmers and clarified that there is no need to hold meetings between the four walls (at Vidhana Soudha as the CM offered) excluding farmers who are losing their land. "The JDS is ready to fight a legal battle against the Bidadi project. Our party will stand with the farmers. The farmers have been fighting for 475 days. Finally, a decision has to be made in court. The government is playing with the feelings of the people there. They (government) have gone out with their reputation in mind. They have opened the avenue to illegal activities worth thousands of crores. They are going to loot in the name of the project," the minister said.

Replying to Shivakumar's reported statement that Kumaraswamy couldn't digest the former becoming CM, he hit back, saying, "I have also seen the CM's chair. Don't talk about Akbar Birbal, but ask what is the story of the people of the state". He pointed out that three farmers have committed suicide.

He said the Vokkaliga community did not back Shivakumar for the CM's post to loot the people in the name of caste.

JDS HAS STARTED GROUNDWORK FOR LOCAL BODIES' POLLS: HDK

Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy on Sunday said JDS workers have started the spadework to organise the party for the local body polls for the last two to three months. He was speaking at a women's wing meeting in which hundreds of women from Hebbal and Banashankari joined the JDS. "This has been an ongoing effort, so today is not the first day. What we are focusing on is preparing our workers to contest the upcoming Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), zilla panchayat and taluk panchayat elections," he told reporters. Claiming that former prime minister H D Deve Gowda initiated women's reservation in local bodies, Kumarswamy promised that more women will be fielded in the polls. "The GBA polls will definitely be a central issue in Bengaluru. Following that, the government will have to conduct the long-pending ZP and TP elections within a month or two, in compliance with court judgments," he said. **ENS**

"The RSS has always targeted those who stood against the British. They themselves were on the side of the British

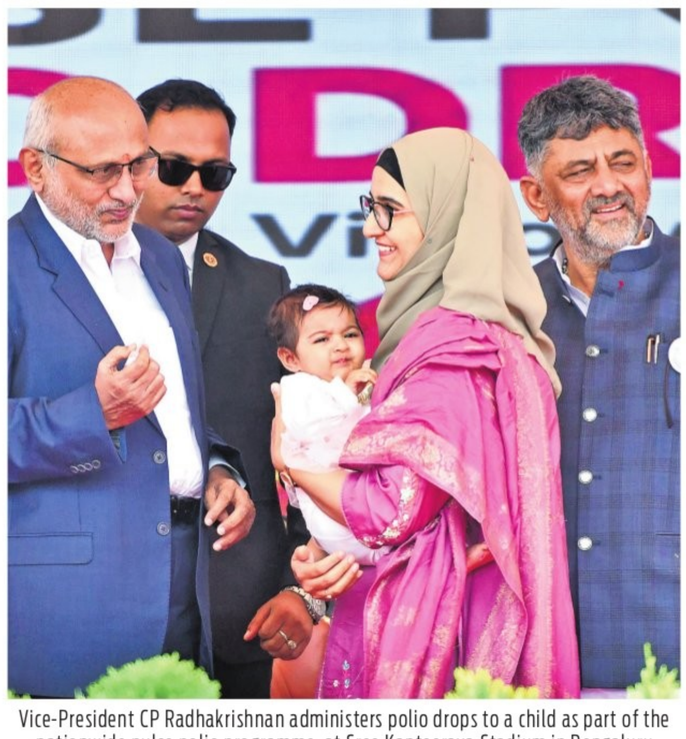
Priyank Kharge, Home Minister

VACCINATE ALL KIDS BELOW 5 AGAINST POLIO: CM TO PARENTS

State aims to vaccinate 60l children; DKS acknowledges NGOs' efforts

FACT FILE

Vaccination personnel	Vaccination booths	Mobile teams	Transit vaccination points
1,14,213	36,686	988	2,125



Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan administers polio drops to a child as part of the nationwide pulse polio programme, at Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Sunday. Chief Minister DK Shivakumar looks on | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday appealed to parents to ensure that every child below the age of five receives the Pulse Polio vaccine, as the state launched its annual immunisation drive with a target of vaccinating 60,84,911 children.

Launching the programme at his Sadashivanagar residence, the Chief Minister urged parents in both urban and rural areas to cooperate with health workers and ensure that no eligible child is left out of the vaccination drive. He also acknowledged the contribution of non-governmental organisations that have partnered with the government in implementing the programme.

Referring to India's fight against polio, the Chief Minister said the country's immunisation programme was initiated during former prime minister Indira Gandhi's tenure and expanded into a nationwide campaign under Rajiv Gandhi. He noted that India achieved the milestone of becoming a polio-free nation during the tenure of former prime minister Manmohan Singh.

Shivakumar said Health Minister UT Khader had chosen to inaugurate the campaign from the Chief Minister's residence, adding that his one-month-old granddaughter made the occasion significant. Meanwhile, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar also marked the National Pulse Polio Drive by administering polio drops to infants during the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan Conclave held at Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Sunday.

GBA RECORDS 96.4% PULSE POLIO COVERAGE

BENGALURU: Five city corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) recorded 96.40 per cent pulse polio coverage on Sunday. Bengaluru East City Corporation achieved the highest coverage at 99.48 per cent, followed by Bengaluru North City Corporation at 98.22 per cent. Meanwhile, Bengaluru Central City Corporation recorded 95.45 per cent polio coverage, followed by Bengaluru South City Corporation at 95.13 per cent and Bengaluru West City Corporation at 94.34 per cent. Of the total target of 11.4 lakh children under five, over 11 lakh received polio drops.

GREEN MISSION

Environmentalist and former Union minister Maneka Gandhi launches 'Dhanyavad', an environmental movement aimed at uniting Rotary members across South Asia to restore and protect the planet, in Bengaluru on Sunday. Rotarian Ravishankar Dakoju, Former Indian Air Force officer KP Nagesh are seen | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Woman hacked to death while asleep, husband arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

A shocking incident has been reported from Katgeri village in Athani taluka of Belagavi, where a man allegedly murdered his wife while she was asleep, reportedly over suspicions regarding her character.

The deceased has been identified as Shobha Pargonda Sarwad, a native of Khavatkhop village in Athani taluka. The accused, her husband Pargonda Sarwad, has been taken into police custody, and further investigation is underway.

Shobha Sarwad

According to police, the couple, originally from Khavatkhop, had been residing at the Avajikar Math for employment. Shobha worked as a cook at the Math, while her husband was employed as a driver.

Preliminary investigations indicate that the couple had been involved in frequent domestic disputes over the past several days, allegedly stemming from the husband's suspicions about his wife's character. Police suspect that, driven by these suspicions, the accused attacked Shobha with a sharp weapon while she was sleeping, resulting in her death.

The incident came to light after locals were alerted and rushed to the scene, creating a tense atmosphere in Katgeri village. Athani police visited the spot and sent the body for post-mortem examination.

A case has been registered against the accused, and further investigation is in progress. Police are awaiting the post-mortem report and are continuing to gather evidence to ascertain the exact sequence of events.

EXPRESS READ

Man bludgeoned to death by friend after asking for party

BELAGAVI: A man was allegedly bludgeoned to death by his friend after asking for a celebratory party following the birth of the latter's baby boyin Bailhongal taluk in Belagavi district. The deceased has been identified as Hanamantappa Yamanappa Itagi. The accused, identified as his friend Vishwanath Poojeri, has been arrested. The two friends were reportedly chatting under the influence of alcohol when an argument broke out over the issue. During the altercation, Hanamantappa allegedly poked or accidentally struck Vishwanath in the eye with his finger, triggering a violent reaction. Enraged by the incident, Vishwanath allegedly attacked Hanamantappa with a stone, striking him on the head leading to his death.

Two killed, 1 injured in building collapse in Raichur

RAICHUR: Two youths were killed when the first-floor structure at the front of a building collapsed near the VRL bus booking point near the new bus stand in Devadurga town, Raichur, on Sunday. Nagaraj Chidanandappa (20), a resident of Kyadigeradoddi, and Ravi Kumar Yallappa (19) of Samudra village died on the spot. Arjuna, a youth from Kothigudda village, was seriously injured and has been taken to RIMS Hospital in Raichur for treatment. The building is about 50 years old, and the police said that the stairs installed by the owner to reach the upper floor has been done in an unscientific manner and it's the reason for the accident. Devdaurga police station PI Manjunath S visited the spot.

2 arrested in chain-snatching case; one escapes

MANGALURU: Police arrested two people out of three in connection with a chain-snatching case registered at Mangaluru South police station. One of them managed to escape from police custody on Friday. The accused are Ravi Bowra (38) and Mohammed Sahil Siddiqui (26), both residents of Uttar Pradesh. Altaf Hussain from Bagalkot escaped while being taken to the police station. Police said that the trio allegedly snatched a 2-gram gold chain worth about ₹1.5 lakh from an elderly woman on June 14. The accused reportedly approached her under the pretext of asking for directions. Police added that all three accused were apprehended on Friday after they confessed to their involvement in the crime

"The Election Commission must work strictly in accordance with the Constitution. In recent years, that is, after 2014, "vote betrayal" is taking place

Siddaramaiah, Former chief minister

No textbooks: PU students left in lurch

ANUBHAB ROY @Bengaluru

STUDENTS from pre-university colleges (PUCs) across Karnataka are still waiting for free textbooks that were promised by the state government and were expected to reach them by May-end.

The state government has provided free textbooks to students only from first to tenth standards so far. The Karnataka wing of the All-India Democratic Students Organisation (AIDSO) stated that government PU colleges in at least seven districts of Bengaluru, Yadgir, Hassan, Tumakuru, Mysuru, Ballari, and Raichur are only receiving partial shipments of textbooks, which are not enough for all the students.

Prof Niranjanaradhya VP, a development educationist, pointed out that the delay will hit students from socioeconomically weaker backgrounds the most. "This is a very important stage of education, and the gap in terms of preparation between the relatively affluent and the underserved will be huge. The rich and urban demographics can manage with access to other resources of knowledge, but for the poor, free textbooks are often the only available resource. The chief minister should take cognisance of this," he said. AIDSO state vice-president Apoorva CM said the setback will affect the marginalised the most, as students from affluent demographics enrol themselves at private institutions. "This is the result of the state overnment's irresponsible attitude towards socioeconomically vulnerable communities. Most students from the underprivileged strata have access to only their mobile phones," she said.

Apoorva also deemed this neglect to be seeds sown into a fertile ground for the widespread and steady privatisation of education in Karnataka, and the nation at large.

Members of the joint task force rescue child labourers and adolescents during a raid in Ballari district on Sunday. The teams inspected over 20 commercial establishments and industrial units | EXPRESS

Joint task force rescues 12 child labourers in Ballari

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Ballari

AT least 12 child labourers were rescued during a surprise inspection conducted by a joint task force across various parts of Ballari district as part of an intensified drive to eradicate child and adolescent labour. The operation targeted commercial establishments and industrial units suspected of employing minors.

The inspection was carried out by officials from the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), District Child Labour Project, Revenue Department, Labour Department, Education Department, District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), and Police Department. The teams inspected over 20 commercial establishments and industrial units located across Ballari city and other parts of the district.

The task force identified and rescued more than 12 child labourers who were allegedly engaged in various occupations under conditions that violated provisions of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act. The rescued adolescents were shifted to a safe location, where officials initiated counselling and rehabilitation procedures.

Senior officials of the district administration said the rescued children would be produced before the appropriate authorities, while efforts are underway to reunite them with their families and ensure their continuation in education. Officials from the Education Department will assess the educational status and facilitate their enrolment in nearby schools.

Cases are being registered against employers found violating child labour laws. The Labour Department has initiated legal action, and penalties will be imposed on those responsible for employing minors. Officials warned that stringent action would be taken against establishments found engaging children or adolescents in prohibited occupations. The district administration reiterated its commitment to eliminating child labour through sustained enforcement drives and public awareness campaigns. Officials urged the public to report instances of child labour through Childline or the Labour Department so that timely action can be taken.

Authorities stated that such joint inspections will continue across Ballari district to ensure strict compliance with labour laws and to safeguard the rights of children. They also appealed to parents and employers to support the government's efforts by ensuring that every child remains in school instead of entering the workforce at a young age.

RBI order violated? Apex Bank CEO's appointment sparks row

BENGALURU: The appointment of AC Diwakara, Additional Registrar of Cooperative Societies, as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Karnataka State Apex Bank has triggered a controversy, with sources alleging that it violates a Reserve Bank of India (RBI) order reappointing CN Devaraju as CEO until June 10, 2027. Sources said Devaraju is likely to move court challenging the appointment. Although the RBI issued its approval for Devaraju's reappointment on June 9, Diwakara, who is considered Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's choice, assumed charge as CEO on June 10. In a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Apex Bank, RBI General Manager Prabhat Ranjan stated, "The Reserve Bank of India hereby conveys its approval for the reappointment of CN Devaraju as Chief Executive Officer of Karnataka State Co-operative Apex Bank Limited for a period of one year (up to June 10, 2027) under Section 35B(1)(b), read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949." The RBI clarified that the approval would remain subject to the bank's compliance with applicable laws, regulations and any court orders arising from the litigation related to the matter. The Apex Bank is yet to elect its chairman, as the election has been postponed indefinitely. Former Cooperation Minister KN Rajanna, who is also the chairman of the Tumakuru Central Cooperative Bank, and MLC S Ravi are considered the frontrunners for the post. Political circles are watching whether Shivakumar will accede to pressure from Rajanna and ask his relative to step aside from the contest. ENS

KR Market vendors still waiting for vending zones

YATISH P @Bengaluru

SMALL vendors evicted from Bengaluru's KR Market to make way for a new parking lot say they have been left without a means to earn a livelihood, as the Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) is yet to allot the alternative vending spaces it had promised.

Flower vendors said that they are the worst affected as they do not have a place for the business. The vendors said they had been selling goods from small stalls and pushcarts. But these have now been removed as part of an encroachment clearance drive to make way for the new parking lot, leaving them without a place to earn a living.

Some evicted small traders told *TNIE* that the problem started after the new parking system was opened. Many vendors termed the eviction sudden, carried out without providing any alternative. "We have been here for years. Suddenly, stating that we are blocking the paths to the market and the way to the parking lot is cruel. They evicted us within a day. How are we supposed to run our lives now?" asked Rajeev R, a flower vendor.

Some traders said they are not doing any business and are hoping that BCCC will allocate a dedicated space to them.

The traffic police at the market said clearing encroachments has helped reduce overcrowding and traffic, especially around the flower market. Traffic movement and pedestrian safety have improved in certain stretches, but long-term results will depend on proper parking discipline and planned spaces, they added. "Footpaths and market roads should be cleared for walking, and vendors should carry out their business only in designated spots. Better planning is needed to manage the traffic," said the customers.

SHRI BHIMASHANKAR SAHAKARI SAKKARE KARKHANE NIYAMIT, MARGUR, TQ: INDI, DIST: VIJAYAPUR

GSTIN NO.: 29AAMAS1356G1Z7 E-mail: purchase.bsskn@gmail.com

BSSKN /TENDER/PURCHASE/2026-2027-02 Date : 28.06.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

A. Sealed tenders are invited from the manufacturer/suppliers/contracor for supply of mechanical, electrical, WTP,& manufacuring materials & exucation of works for ensuring cane crusing season for the year 2026-2027. The deatails as follows

SL No	DEPARTMENT	ENQ NO	SL No	DEPARTMENT	ENQ NO
	1. MILL SECTION			4. CO-GEN SECTION	
1	Conveyor Belt	31/149	50	Turbine oil Filter	159
2	Oil Seals	37	51	Paints & Brush	26/ 186/67
3	Couplings	38	52	MBC Sprocket	30
4	Cane unloader & Unloader Spares	83	53	Soot Blower Spares	32
5	MS & SS plate & Spring Steel	84/192	54	Feed Pump Spares KSB Make	34
6	Chain & Chain Spares Triplex Chain	85	55	Motorised Valve Spares	36
7	Workshop Tools & Tackles	177	56	RO Plant materials	39
8	Filter Element & Gear pump for unloader	187	57	WTP lab Apparates	43
9	New Lathe Machine	188	58	Boiler Water Treatement chemicals on per day basis	79
10	Gearbox & Spares	171/181/ 182/183	59	WTP Chemicals	80
11	CROWN PINION & Eccentric PIN	191	60	Ash Handling Spares	28
12	Valves IBR & Non IBR	33 /150/ 184		**Service / Work**	
13	Harvesting Cane kicker	151	61	Boiler Safety Valve service & commissioning	8
14	Rotary Screen Spares	152	62	Boiler Feed servicing (KSB -OEM)	5
15	Hardware materials	169/189	63	Insulation and cladding work	40
16	Oil & Lubrication on ARC basis	190		5. MANUFACTURING	
	Service / Work		64	Refrectory materials	25/66
17	Servicing of Gearbox	139	65	PP Bags	69
18	Belt Jointing Work	140	66	Sulphur	70
19	Servicing of Mill Lubrication System	141	67	Lime	71
20	Servicing of Mill Hydraulic System	142	68	Process Chemicals	72
21	UT & DP Testing	143	69	lab chemicals & equipments	75
22	Machining Work of Crown Pinion & Sprocket	164	70	Stitching threads, needles & tarpuline	74
	2. BOILING SECTION		71	Tube Cleaning equipments	76
23	Centrifugal machine spares	86	72	Nickel screens	77
24	Sugar Handling Materials	173	73	Sugar Grader screens	78
25	Sugar Hopper Spares	174		**Service / Work**	
26	Vacuum Pump Spares	175	74	Stitching machine Servicing	58
27	Spray Pond Spares	176	75	Polerometer servicing.	56
28	Pump Spares Kirloskar/ksb/Sintech/ Risansi/PSP	166/172/ 178/179	76	Overhauling & Servicing of Sucroscan Machine	57
29	Rubber Goods	167		6. INSTRUMENT SECTION	
30	V Belt on ARC Basis	168	77	AFR & GUAGE	125
31	FRP Pipes & Fittings	170	78	SMPS & solonoid valve	126
32	Valves	184 / 33/150	79	Jamboo Display IC & Indicators	127
33	SS 304 Tubes	197	80	Atlas copco air compressor Spares	128
	Service / Work		81	Elgi air compressor Spares	129
34	Health checkup of vaccum pump (MAKE - PPI)	200	82	Vibration Sensor	130
35	PHE servicing & overhauling	65	83	Weightbridge indicator & load cell	131
36	Air Blower Service	193	84	Battery 150Ah and 7 Ah	132
37	Vacuum Filter Overhauling	194	85	Current transformer (CT)	133
38	Sugar grader inspection & servicing	195	86	Labour contract for internal works	
39	Water pressure jet machine overhauling	196	87	Transport Vehicle Contract for Internal work	
40	Rotating equipment site balancing	198	88	Febrication & Erection work	
41	Clarifier serving & mud booth alignment	199	89	Nylon Wire rope , Cane Cutter & Tent	201
	3. ELECTRICAL SECTION			**Service / Work**	
42	POWER CONTACTOR AND KITS	110	90	MILL SIDE DC/AC drive service	89
43	THURMAL OVER LOAD RELAY	111	91	Transformer Oil filtration	91
44	ELECTRICAL HEATER	112	92	Boiler feed pump Siemans VFD Service	93
45	CABLE, LUGS AND CONNECTOT	113	93	Electrical burnt motor rewinding	95
46	LIGHTING and LIGHTING SPARES	114	94	Overhauling and servicing of air Conditioner	96
47	ELECTRICAL GENARAL MATERIAL	117	95	AMC for Chiller plant servicing	
48	Motor and motor spares	120	96	LT& HT breaker servicing	97
49	500KVA DG SET B CHECK MATERIALS	122	97	CT and PT	121

B. Tender forms are available at the factory office & interested vendors can obtain the form on payment of Rs 590/-per form (Including GST) (Non Refundable) in cash/RTGS/NEFT/ in the name of the factory . **SHRI BHIMASHANKAR SSHAKARI SAKKARE KARKHANE NIYAMIT, MARAGUR Bank Name : KARNATAKA GRAMEENA BANK. ACCOUNT NO : 89093623902, IFSC: PKGB0013184 , BRANCH : DHULAKHED For any Issue of Payment Please Contact Account Dept. No: 9945644929**

C EMD @ 2 % of the total value of the tender, In the form of Cheque / DD of any Nationalised Bank only.

D Tender forms will be issued from : 29.06.2026 to 08.07.2026 during the working hours at factory site.

E Last date of submission of the sealed Our tender forms on or before 18.07.2026 Withaut fail

F Technical & Commercial negotiation meeting will be intimated later on by E-Mail/Phone.

G Management reserves the right to accept /Reject the tenders in full or part without assigning any Reasons thereof.

H For details contact: Purchase Officer : 9049634421

I Note: Quotation field on our tender form only. Email not excepted

Sd/- Managing Director **Sd/- CHAIRMAN**

IN THE COURT OF XXXVII ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BANGALORE (CCH 38)

EX No. 918/2025

Decree Holder : Sri. N Krishnamurthy S/o. Narayana Swamy, Aged about 41 years, # 2, Siddapura village, Ramagondanahalli Post, Bengaluru - 560066. -V/S-

Judgement Debtor Sri. S.V.S Sudheer Babu

NOTICE DRAFT COURT SALE DEED TO THE JUDGEMENT DEBTOR U/0. V RULE 20 (1-A) OF CPC, 1908

To,

The Judgment Debtor, Sri. S.V.S Sudheer Babu, S/o. Late Lakshminarayana, Aged about 51 years, R/at. L87, 4th Main, 14th Cross, 6th Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru - 560034.

Whereas the above-named Decree-Holder has instituted an Execution Petition under Order 21 Rule 32 CPC against you for execution of the Judgment and decree dated 16.09.2023 in O.S No. 3553/2021 in Ex.Case No. 918/2025. A draft court sale deed in respect of the schedule property has already been filed to the Court for approval and execution of the same.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court on **20.07.2026** at 11 A.M in person or through advocate/pleader to answer the same. Failing which the Hon'ble Court would order for execution of the court Sale Deed in respect of the schedule property in your absence.

SCHEDULE (IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

All that piece and parcel of the residential site bearing No.93 measuring East to West 12.20 Meters and North to South measuring 18.30 Meters totally measuring 223.26 Square Meters comprised in residentially converted land property bearing Sy.No.62/p 1 measuring 10 acres 20 guntas, situated at Lake Mist Layout, J. B Kaval Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, is formed as per sanction plan vide No.BDA/TPM/PRL-13/11-12/76/ 2012-13 dated 03/04/2013 issued by the Bangalore Development Authority, which bounded on:

East by : Site No.94, West by : Site No.92, North by : Site No.96, South by : Road.

Given under my hand & seal of the court, this 20th day of June 2026.

BY ORDER OF COURT

Sd/- Senior Sheristedar City Civil Court, Bangalore

K. Shrihari

(Advocate for the Decree-Holder)

#203, Swiss Complex, #33, Race Course Road, Bangalore – 560 001.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) | **Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.**

E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction)of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS "** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 24.06.2026	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date Time & Place for submission of Bid
1	30198642132453 & 30199410000029	1) M/s. Asian Enterprises, Rep. by its Proprietor Mr. Shaik Nasir, 2) Mr. Shaik Nasir, S/o. Mahamad Yousf, Prop. M/s. Asian Enterprises, 3) Mrs. Semma Kousar	18-02-2026	04-05-2026	Rs.22,00,365.31 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Three Hundred Sixty Five and Thirty One Paisa Only)	21.07.2026 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs. 1,02,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Two Lakh Only)	Rs.10,20,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty Thousand Only)	04.08.2026 @ 02:00 PM	03.08.2026, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.12 situated at Jarakabande Kaval Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and allotted with all appurtenances either latent or patent attached to the schedule land and **Bounded on the Survey No.58/1: East by:** Shaik Jhony Property Site No.11, **West by:** Sharadamma Property, **North by:** Mukthiar Property and 10ft Road, **South by:** Ansar's Property.									
2	31888950000912 & 31889670000187	1) Mr. Salahudden E, 2) Mrs. Naseema Banu	25-09-2025	09-12-2025	Rs.15,11,073.53 (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eleven Thousand Seventy Three and Fifty Three Paisa Only)	21.07.2026 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.59,29,000/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Twenty Nine Thousand Only)	Rs.5,92,900/- (Rupees Five Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Nine Hundred Only)	04.08.2026 @ 02:00 PM	03.08.2026, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property Site No.28/8, measuring EW: 30 Ft. and NS: 20 Ft. in all measuring 600 Sq.ft. BBMP Katha No. 26/B/26/38, presently comes under BBMP Ward No.23, situated at 13th Cross, Behind Farida Shoe Factory, Govindappa, Nagaravara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and **Bounded on the: East by:** Road, **West by:** Private property, **North by:** Private property, **South by:** Site No.28/A belongs to Mujeeb Ahmd.									
3	32909630000214 32909410000180 & 45369800030001	1) Mrs. Saroja, 2) Mr. Srinivas	17.03.2025	04-06-2025	Rs.15,06,180.70 (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Six Thousand One Hundred Eighty and Seventy Paisa Only)	21.07.2026 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.29,07,000/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakhs Seven Thousand Only)	Rs.2,90,700/- (Rupees Two Lakh Ninety Thousand Seven Hundred Only)	04.08.2026 @ 02:00 PM	03.08.2026, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Southern Portion of Gramathana Old Khaneshumari Katha No.133, Old Katha No.133, New Kaneshumari Katha No.214/414, New Katha No.414, situated at Konadasapura Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and **Bounded on: East by:** Road, **West by:** House belongs to Sharadhabai, **North by:** Remaining Northern portion of same site, **South by:** House belongs to Munivenkatamma. Measuring East to West 40 feet & North to South I5 feet, in all measuring 600 Sq.feet.									
4	46459630000272 46459410001982 & 46459800000092	1) Mr. Muniraju S N, 2) Mrs. Sowbhagya G	18-11-2025	27-01-2026	Rs.14,01,114.42 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh One Thousand One Hundred Fourteen and Forty Two Paisa Only)	21.07.2026 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.31,38,000/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Only)	Rs.3,13,800/- (Rupees Three Lakh Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred Only)	04.08.2026 @ 02:00 PM	03.08.2026, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the immovable Residential property bearing Khaneshumari/ Katha No.87/87, situated at Seegehalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Presently comes under the limits of Seegehalli Grama Panchayath. **Bounded on the: East by:** Property of Sri Venkatappa, **West by:** Road and Property belongs to Sri Muniraju, **North by:** Property of Sri Krishnappa, **South by:** Property of Sri Anjinappa and Sri Nanjundappa. Measuring East to West 21 feet and North to South 23 feet, in all measuring 483 sq.feet, along with RCC roofed House.									
5	31879630000390 31879410001268 & 31879410000686	1) Mr. Ravi B, 2) Mrs. Jayamma	18-11-2025	05-02-2026	Rs.12,72,897.46 (Rupees Twelve Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Seven and Forty Six Paisa Only)	21.07.2026 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.24,55,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Four Lakh Fifty Five Thousand Only)	Rs.2,45,500/- (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Five Thousand Five Hundred Only)	04.08.2026 @ 02:00 PM	03.08.2026, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel for property bearing Site No.08, Sy.No.28/1, BBMP Khatha No.28/1/08, measuring East to West 20 feet and North to South 10 feet totally measuring 300 Sq.feet and a residential House property of about 3 Sq.ft area with AC sheet roof red oxide flooring and wooden doors and windows, situated at A Block, present Doddachannappa Layout, Doddabommasandra Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk and **Bounded on: East by:** Site No.07, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.5, **South by:** Property of another portion of Plot No.08.									

The properties are being held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" & "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and the E-Auction will be conducted **'On Line'.** The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider **M/s. Auctionbazaar.com** at the web portal **contact@auctionbazaar.com, support@auctionbazaar.com, eauctions@auctionbazaar.com.** For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact **M/s. Auctionbazaar.com; Contact Auctionbazaar Contact Number: 91 8370969696/ +91 7997043999. Email id: contact@auctionbazaar.com, support@auctionbazaar.com.**

For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact **Jana Small Finance Bank authorized officers Mr. Umesh (Mob. No.8050149617), Mr. Kaushik B (Mob. No.7019949040) & Mr. Ranjan Naik (Mob. No.6362952653).** To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named Borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 27.06.2026, Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

POST OF THE DAY

Lokesh Nara @naralokesh

Jagan garu accused us of not paying salaries, but in YSR Kadapa district, we've fully paid honorariums to all 3,450 cook-cum-helpers working there up to April 2026...

KERALA POCSO CASES

Coach sentenced to 99 yrs

SHAN A S @T'Puram

A cricket coach in Kerala has been has been awarded a collective imprisonment of 99 years in three POCSO cases. A total of six cases were registered by Thiruvananthapuram City police in Kerala, while another one was registered in Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu. The convicted coach, M Manu (40), hails from Sreevaraham in Vallakkadavu, Kerala, was found guilty in three cases so far.

It was in March 2024 that an underaged female cricketer, who aspired to don the India jersey, began breaking down hysterically and stood on the verge of a collapse while staying in a Thiruvananthapuram hotel. She had arrived in the city to take part in a girls T20 match organised by the Kerala Cricket Association (KCA).

As those accompanying her -- teammates and coach -- were left clueless as to what triggered such an emotional outburst, a fellow cricketer seemed to have an answer. "Maybe she saw coach Manu (Manu M) in the hotel," the girl told one of her teammates.

That was the beginning of the undoing of Manu, a cricket trainer with the Thiruvananthapuram District Cricket Association academy, who had been preying on a band of hapless girls under his care.

The girl with the answer too was one of Manu's victims. The young cricketer volunteered to file a complaint with the Cantonment police. The second girl too followed suit some days later. The cops, within a matter of a few days, received five more complaints. Six cases were registered by Thiruvananthapuram City police, while another one was registered in Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu. Under the pretext of giving private lessons, he touched the girls inappropriately. In some cases, he made the victims believe he was just checking their body fat level, while in other cases he made them shoot their own nude content by making them believe that it was to ensure the effectiveness of his workouts.

Manu is awarded a collective imprisonment of 99 years -- 16 in the first case, 35 in the second and 48 in the third. The verdict in the fourth case is expected on Monday.

62-yr-old man sentenced to life for raping mentally disabled minor in Telangana

HYDERABAD: A POCSO court in Medchal, Hyderabad, has sentenced a 62-year-old man to life imprisonment after DNA evidence conclusively linked him to the sexual assault of a 17-year-old girl with a mental disability. The convict, Shaik Sadaq, on January 4, 2024, approached the victim, a Class VII student, while she was waiting at the bus stand on her way to school. Claiming to know her parents, he allegedly lured her to a room, mixed alcohol in a glucose drink, forced her to consume it and later sexually assaulted her. Telangana Forensic Science Laboratory reports found Sadaq's seminal stains on the her clothing, proving his involvement in the crime. The court sentenced Sadaq to life imprisonment. **ENS**

TN woman dies 4 days after delivering baby at her home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

FOUR days after delivering her second baby at home, a 32-year-old woman from Tiruppur district, Tamil Nadu, succumbed to a postpartum hemorrhage. Her infant girl is currently receiving treatment at a hospital in Erode and her condition is stable.

The woman, Sasikala (32) from Uthukuli, Tiruppur district, went into labour around 9:15 pm on June 23. Sasikala and her husband, Kolanthasamy, a farmer (mid-30s), delivered the baby at their home at 5:42am on Wednesday. Shortly after the delivery, she suffered from postpartum hemorrhage and fainted. She died on Sunday amid treatment at a hospital near Coimbatore.

The woman had lost faith in the allopathic medicine after suffering from back pain and dental problems following her first baby delivery through C-section, said the police.

EXPRESS READ

Kerala recovers 40 hectares of forest land in Chinnakkanal, worth over 700 crore

IDUKKI: Ending decades-long legal hurdles and paving the way for habitat restoration in one of Kerala's most vulnerable human-elephant conflict zones, the forest department took possession of 40.07 hectares of vested forest in Chinnakkanal. Officials described it as the largest recovery of vested forest land in Kerala and estimate the recovered land to be worth Rs 700 crore, citing the high market value of title deed properties nearby. The recovered land forms part of Upper Surianelle Estate in Chinnakkanal village and traces its origin to proceedings under the Kerala Private Forests (Vesting and Assignment) Act, 1971. The case relates to OA number 572 of 1975, involving 210.89 hectares in the estate. The recovery mission was led by Harison Sasi along with Beat Forest Officers Sajeev and Saju, Divisional Forest Officer Saju Varghese and Range Officer Arun Kumar. **ENS**

PROTECTING FUTURE

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay administers polio drops to a child during the launch of the National Pulse Polio Immunisation Campaign 2026 at the Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School in Palavakkam, Chennai, on Sunday | ASHWIN PRASATH

Our goal is to make Karnataka a drug-free state: DKS

Students and volunteers take oath during the campaign against drugs at Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DK SHIVAKUMAR said he has noticed some people getting high by consuming pan masala, gutka and other tobacco products. "I want to warn all manufacturers. The government may lose some Rs 100 crore. But if it is found that even a small amount of drugs is being added in your products, I will see that these products are banned in Karnataka. You (manufacturers) should be very cautious. Our goal is to make Karnataka a drug-free state," he warned.

Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan said strong willpower is the only way to completely eradicate drug abuse. He said the vision of a Nasha Mukt Bharat extends beyond eliminating drugs and seeks to ensure healthy families across the country.

Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot described drug abuse as a serious threat to families, communities and the nation's future, while calling organ donation one of the noblest acts of human compassion.

Over 25,000 students from RGUHS-affiliated colleges participated in the programme and took a pledge to serve as ambassadors for a drug-free India.

TN PDS staff allege transit leaks, estimate ₹200 cr loss annually

B ANBUSELVAN @Chennai

THE absence of a scientific weighing mechanism at Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) godowns, from where rice, sugar and other essential commodities are dispatched to fair price shops, has allegedly resulted in significant leakage of Public Distribution System (PDS) goods, including several lakh tonnes of rice and other items. The annual loss is estimated at more than Rs200 crore.

Sources said, the weight of gunny bags loaded at TNCSC godowns is not recorded through an electronic system, but is manually entered by the staff, which is the root cause of the problem. As a result, a rice bag recorded as weighing 50.65 kg often weighs only 47 kg to 48 kg when it reaches ration shops. Since the bags received at ration shops are not weighed before being stocked, the shortage comes to light only when the bags are opened, and rice is distributed to consumers. Sources alleged that the shortage ranges from 1 kg to 3 kg per bag. To reconcile stock records, ration shop employees are often compelled to adjust the deficit by recording rice purchases against the ration cards of beneficiaries, who have not actually drawn their quota.

The state procures 84,000 MT through a tide-over allocation at Rs 8.33 per kg and another 60,000 MT through the Open Market Sale Scheme at Rs 35.50 per kg for distribution to non-priority cardholders and nutritional programmes. The state's annual food subsidy expenditure is estimated at Rs 14,500 crore.

WESTERN RAILWAY
Material Management Department
VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/32/2026 Date 23.06.2026

S.N.	Tender No	Short Description of Items	Quantity	T.O.D.
257	15260675	Air brake Hose coupling for FEED pipe	24753 Nos	10-Aug-26
258	15262058	Primary vertical damper	8238 Nos	07-Aug-26
259	15260610	Non asbestos based K type high friction composite brake block	135950 Nos	03-Aug-26
260	15251204C	Set of fasteners for side buffer assembly	38936 Nos	27-Jul-26
261	18262181	Slip free finish stainless steel	29997 KG	27-Jul-26
262	06261305A	Railway carriage fan 110 V	2543 Nos	24-Jul-26
263	06263002	Dry type Power Distribution Transformer	39 Nos	24-Jul-26
264	04261916	Color: Black	144593 Ltr	23-Jul-26
265	22262670A	LED based flasher light unit for electric locos	371 Set	22-Jul-26
266	04262122	Fire retardant Polychloroprene rubber based adhesive for pasting of PVC & Rexine cloth with plywood / aluminium / stainless steel as per RCF spec. no. MDTS %u2013237, rev. nil of April- 2012 or latest. packing in 05 litres pack	64069 Ltr	22-Jul-26
267	07261326A	Sealed Maintenance Free VRLA Battery Set of 60 cells (Stackable), 2 Volt/200 AH Capacity	34 Set	22-Jul-26
268	15260500	Axle box housing finish machined	417 Nos	22-Jul-26
269	22263615	Pantograph assly. complete	14 Nos	21-Jul-26
270	22263359	Various types of kit items	273 Set 11 Nos	20-Jul-26
271	26261017A	Running Contract of One Year for supply of i) NCR GRSP FOR RT_ 4218 ii) NCR GRSP for RT_ 4219 iii) NCR GRSP for RT_ 4220	5265 Set	20-Jul-26

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website **www.ireps.gov.in and wr.indianrailways.gov.in.** 0303

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POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	34019430000395	1) Mr. P Riyaz/ Riyaz S. P, Also at: M/S. HMS Provision Store, Prop. P Riyaz/ Riyaz S. P, 2) Mrs. Noor Asfiya, 3) Mr. P. Babajan	09-04-2026 Rs.25,94,524.58 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Four and Fifty Eight Paisa Only) as on 07-04-2026	Date: 26-06-2026 Time: 11:52 AM Symbolic Possession

Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of property bearing Sy.No.53, Katha No.5, PID No.37-509-276, measuring East to West: 11.88 meter, and North to South: 9.7 meter total measuring 115.2 sq.meter, situated at Rahamath Nagar, Vijaypura Town, 5th Division, Devanahalli Taluk Bengaluru Rural District Ward No.23 and **Bounded on the: East by:** Multiple Road, **West by:** Property of C.B.Munishamappa, **North by:** Vacant Land belongs to Babajan, **South by:** E Schedule property belongs to P. Babajan.

Whereas the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore Rural
Date: 27.06.2026
Sd/- Authorised Officer,
For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement)

BESCOM invites tenders vide Enquiry No: BESCOM/ 2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT1146 through e-procurement platform from eligible Bidders for "Strengthening of HT/ LT Network in Elephant Habitat & Elephant Corridors by creating Safe Corridors for Elephants and other Wildlife in **Ramanagara Division** of Ramanagara Circle of BRAZ area of BESCOM Jurisdiction on Total Turnkey on Percentage Quoting Basis."

Bid Documents available: 01.07.2026. **Last date for Bid Submission:** 30.07.2026, 17:00 Hrs. **Opening of Bid Document:** 31.07.2026, 17:15 Hrs.

The Tenders can be obtained through KPP portal web-site https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Aspiring Bidders need to register on KPP portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with KPP help desk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.

Sd/-
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download "BESCOM Mithra" Mobile APP
Chief General Manager (Ele.,), Procurement, BESCOM

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No:605/EEE/PD/AEE(O)/HBL/2026-27/1153-55 Date:22.06.2026

NOTIFICATION

KPTCL has formulated scheme under Electricity Act-2003 and the scheme is here by published. This notification is issued for the information of the concerned persons and general public.

Particulars of the scheme is as under:

1)Name of the work: Establishing 2X20MVA, 110/11kV sub-station at **Nigadi** in Dharwad Taluk & District with Construction of 110kV LILO Line with Drake conductor from 110KV Narendra-Tadasinakoppa-Tarihal line to Proposed 110/11 kV Nigadi sub-station for a distance of 7.079 Kms in Dharwad Taluk & District.

2. Cost of the project: Rs. 3288.59 Lakhs.

3. The details of Transmission line passes through the area/ villages and land survey No's are as follows:

Villages:1.Kelageri: 139,140,141,142,143,144,145,146, 184,185,186,187,189,314,315,316,317,318,319,320,311,310, 309,308,307,306,305,304,302,301,300,298,299,253,254,260, 261,263,264,267/2,268,269,270,271,272,273,275, 276,277,278,274,280 **2.Salakinakoppa**: 120,121,122,118, 119,117,115,116 **3. Bada:** 9/1,2,114,116/1,102,100/ 1,101,100/3,97,89,86,88 **4. Nigadi:** 166

The said transmission line passes through above mentioned villages of land survey No's and neighbouring villages of land survey No's.

4. Need for sub-station and line: To provide quality of power supply, voltage improvement and meet future load growth at Kelageri, Salakinkoppa, Bada, Nigadi in and around surrounding Villages.

KPTCL shall have and excersise all powers which the telegraphic authority's posses under part III of the teleghaphic act 1885 for implementation of the above said schemes. Objections if any regarding the project shall be sent to the under signed within 15 days from the date of publication of this notification.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele.,), Project Division, KPTCL, Hubballi.

ಕಿತ್ತೂರು ರಾಣಿ ಚನ್ನಮ್ಮ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ
ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಗಮ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ- 04, ಭೂತರಾಮನಹಟ್ಟಿ, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ - 591156
(ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ B+ ಗ್ರೇಡ್ - 2021) PM-USHA (MERU)

KITTURU RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY
Vidyasangama, National Highway-04, Bhootaramanahatti, Belagavi -591156
(NAAC Accredited with B+ Grade-2021) PM-USHA (MERU)

Website: www.rcub.ac.in | ಕುಲಸಚಿವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ | Phone No.: 0831-2565241
E-mail: academic@rcub.ac.in | Office of the Registrar | Phone No.: 0831-2565258

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕರಾಚವಿ/ಬೆ/ಕುಸಕಾ/ವಿಪವಿ/ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ/2026-27/1657 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27-06-2026

Admission Notification for Postgraduate Degree Courses – Academic Year 2026–27

Applications are invited from eligible students for admission to Postgraduate (PG) Degree Courses for the academic year 2026–27 for Main Campus, Kitturu Rani Channamma University, Belagavi, New Campus, Hirebagewadi, Postgraduate Centre, Vijayapura, Sangolli Rayanna First Grade Constituent College, Belagavi and Affiliated Colleges under the University in Belagavi and Vijayapura districts, through the **UUCMS online portal:https://uucms.karnataka.gov.in.**. from **01-07-2026 to 20-07-2026.**

Courses and Centres:

Sl. No.	Courses	Centre
1	Commerce, Economics, Political Science, Sociology, History and Archaeology, Social Work, Journalism and Mass Communication, M.Ed. and MBA.	Main Campus, Vidyasangama, Bhutaramanahatti.
2	Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Zoology, Botany, Geography, Computer Science, Criminology and Forensic Science, Library and Information Science, MCA.	New Campus, Vijnana Sangama, Hirebagewadi.
3	Kannada and English.	Sangolli Rayanna First Grade Constituent College, Belagavi.
4	Marathi (under KRCU Quota).	Rani Parvati Devi College, Belagavi.
5	Kannada, English, Marathi, History and Archaeology, Social Work, Commerce, Mathematics, Political Science, Economics, MCA and Urdu.	PG Centre, Vachana Sangama Toravi, Vijayapura.
6	Alcohol Technology and Sugar Technology.	S. Nijalingappa Sugar Institute College, Belagavi.
7	M.P.Ed. (Master of Physical Education).	1. MES M.P.Ed College, Mudalagi. 2. SPM M.P.Ed College, Raibag.
8	M.Ed. (Master of Education).	Admission process will be conducted after the announcement of B.Ed. final semester results.
9	MBA (Master of Business Administration). MCA (Master of Computer Applications).	• MBA and MCA Admissions through PGCET-2026: Students who appeared for PGCET-2026 conducted by the Karnataka Examinations Authority can select Kitturu Rani Channamma University during counselling and obtain admission through KEA. Alternatively, students who have appeared for PGCET-2026 may seek direct admission to the MBA and MCA departments of the University. • Through KRCU-U-CET-2026: Students who have not applied to KEA may apply according to the schedule mentioned in this notification and secure admission through KRCU-U-CET-2026, conducted by the University. • For further details, students may contact the University's MBA and MCA departments.

Additional Information:

➤ Details of PG courses available in affiliated colleges of Belagavi and Vijayapura districts can be obtained from the University's website: www.rcub.ac.in.

➤ **Students interested in studying at the PG Centre, Vijayapura must submit the printed copy of their online UUCMS applications to The Coordinator, Postgraduate Centre, Toravi, Vijayapura, along with the Application fee receipt and copies of supporting documents. Admission procedures and counselling for such students will be conducted at the Vijayapura PG Centre itself.**

➤ **M.P.Ed. Admissions** under the **KRCU Quota** will be allotted only to students who have completed B.P.Ed. from Kitturu Rani Channamma University. Eligible students who have completed B.P.Ed. from UGC-recognized universities within or outside Karnataka may obtain an Eligibility Certificate from the Academic Section and seek admission under the **Management Quota** in the affiliated colleges mentioned above.

Important Instructions:

1. **Eligibility Criteria**: Only students who have completed a Bachelor's Degree from a UGC-recognized university and meet the eligibility criteria prescribed by the respective PG programme are eligible to apply. **Before applying,** students should verify the Eligibility conditions, Admission fees, Course details through the University's website:www.rcub.ac.in. or concerned PG departments. Applications must be submitted online through UUCMS portal https://uucms.karnataka.gov.in.
2. **Application Fee for:**

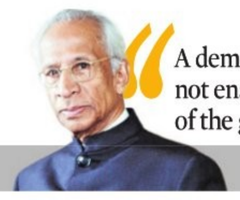
1	Kitturu Rani Channamma University and Akkamahadevi Women's University Students	Rs. 250/-
2	Other Universities Students	Rs. 500/-

Applicants applying for more than one course must pay a separate fee for each course.

3. **UUCMS ID Requirement**: While applying through UUCMS, students must use their **10-digit UUCMS ID** from their undergraduate programme (Example: 2200668411). If the password is forgotten, it may be retrieved or reset using the **Forgot Password** option.
4. **Submission of Hard Copy:** Students must submit the Printed copy of the UUCMS application, Fee payment receipt, Attested copies of supporting documents either in person or by post to, **The Head of the Concerned** Postgraduate Department Kitturu Rani Channamma University Bhutaramanahatti, Belagavi – 591156 on or before **21-07-2026.**
5. **Fee Concession for SC/ST Students:** Fee concessions (except mandatory university admission fees) will be granted only to SC/ST students who have annual family income below Rs. 2.50 lakhs, possess a valid income certificate, possess caste certificate, are eligible for the Social Welfare Department scholarship (Freeship Card). Such students must pay the applicable fees to the University after scholarship funds are credited by the Social Welfare Department.
6. **Internal Reservation Certificate**: Scheduled Caste students must submit the **Internal Reservation Certificate** during admission.
7. **Minimum Student Requirement**: If fewer than **15 students** are admitted to any course or department in the University or affiliated colleges, such students may be transferred to another department or affiliated college.
8. **College Selection During Counselling:** Students selecting an affiliated college during University counselling must pay University fees to the University and pay college admission fees directly to the selected college. If a student pays University admission fees after selecting a college but later does not take admission in that college, the fees paid to the University will **not be refunded**.
9. **B.Ed Students:** Students currently pursuing B.Ed. are not permitted to apply for PG degree programmes until completion of their B.Ed. course.
10. **Late or Incomplete Applications:** Applications received after the prescribed deadline or incomplete applications will be rejected.
11. **For additional details regarding PG admissions, students may visit:www.rcub.ac.in or contact the respective Postgraduate Departments.**

Sd/-
Santosh S. Kamagouda K.A.S.
Registrar

EDITORIAL



"A democracy is likely to develop into a tyranny if it does not enable the opposition groups to criticise the policies of the government in a fair, free and honest manner

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

LOW VALUE ADDITION HOBBLES INDIA'S AIM TO BE ELECTRONICS GIANT

DESPITE years of efforts, India's electronics manufacturing industry is stuck in the 'assembly trap'. Even though the production and export of mobile phones is often regarded as a success story, the reality is that a significant chunk of their components are imported and assembled. Moreover, we are unable to replicate the same kind of success in other categories such as television sets, laptops and tablets. Consequently, electronic imports exceeded exports by about 2.4 times in 2025-26, according to government data. With exports at only $47.69 billion against imports worth $116.18 billion, the trade deficit in the sector widened to $68 billion. This happened even as the sector emerged as one of the largest exporters, contributing about 11 percent of India's total.

One of the reasons for this weakness is low domestic value addition of only 18-20 percent, while the remaining 80 percent of value is mostly derived from imported components like displays, printed circuit boards, camera modules, connectors and capacitors. For us to transition from assembly-led growth to component-led manufacturing and move up the global value chain, we need a multi-tier supplier ecosystem like those in China and Vietnam. While the government is doing its bit with initiatives like component manufacturing clusters, their scale needs to be much bigger to outgrow the existing manufacturing hubs. Besides efforts at improving research and development, India must boldly experiment with frontier technologies rather than merely focusing on established architectures. That way, we stand a chance at emerging as a leader in evolving areas. Take the automotive industry, for instance. Given the rise of electric vehicles, advanced electronic systems, whose use may double from the current 20 percent of a car's value in the coming decade, offer a good opportunity.

While supplier ecosystems are essential, India also needs to work on the inverted duty structures and complex tax laws that make it more expensive to produce than to import finished products. And even though the share of domestically assembled phones in the Indian market increased from 26 percent in 2014-15 to 99.2 percent by 2024, we are yet to position ourselves as the world's leading mobile manufacturing giant. It only confirms the strong foothold the existing manufacturing hubs have. So the first task for us should be to aim to serve the entire domestic demand, with zero imports. Let's satisfy home needs first before attempting to conquer the world.

ANCY'S RECORD GIVES HOPE, BUT CONSISTENCY IS KEY

JUNE 27 could well be regarded henceforth as a red letter day in Indian athletics because of the significance of the new records notched up. At the senior inter-state nationals in Bhubaneswar, Ancy Sojan achieved something no Indian long jumper could do in the last 22 years—leap beyond Anju Bobby George's 6.83 metres recorded at the Athens Olympics. When Ancy's fifth attempt took her to 6.88 m, even she was stunned. She had shown promise last month, when she jumped 6.75 m at the Federation Cup in Ranchi. Saturday she took a leap of faith into the history books.

It was also a stark reminder of India's painstaking progress in track and field events. Saturday proved there is hope beyond double Olympic and world championships medallist Neeraj Chopra. If Ancy broke a longstanding women's record, Sarvesh Kushare became the first Indian man to clear 2.30 m in high jump.

Just like a mirror with two faces, the records reflect different realities. A lengthy gap to break one record and the first success at another came after significant increases in funding and support. Stars sporadically appeared on the horizon but none stayed beyond a flicker. That's why the consistency of recent trends gives hope. A lot of national records have been broken in the last one year or so. The 100 m record is slowly inching towards the sub-10s. Animesh Kujur and Gurindervir Singh have sparked a mini sprint revolution. Quartermiler T K Vishal has run sub-45, the first by an Indian. Dev Meena is raising the bar on pole vault. Tejaswin Shankar, on the other hand, is rewriting domestic heptathlon records. To put Ancy's achievement in perspective, it was the seventh best jump in the world this season.

However, athletics is still mired in the doping controversy. The last time someone threatened Anju's mark, she tested positive for a banned substance. Though the Athletics Federation of India's decentralisation policy seems to be bearing fruit, the doping menace needs to be cured, especially before the Commonwealth and Asian Games later this year. Domination of the Asian Games should only be the first step towards Olympics and World Championships. We must celebrate the new records, but urge consistency like Neeraj's. LA 2028 should be the ultimate focus for this generation of athletes.

QUICK TAKE

LISTENING TO BIRDSONG

A Chinese startup recently claimed to have engineered the holy grail of communication by piercing the human-animal language barrier. Meng Xiaoyi's artificial intelligence device proposes to translate dog and cat noises for pet parents with "up to 95 percent accuracy". But the scientific community has rightly remained sceptical. In such a contested space, neuroscientist Julie Elie's recent win of the $1,00,000 Coller-Dolittle prize for interspecies understanding is all that more noteworthy. Elie studied the vocalisations of zebra finches, birdsongs that artist Richard Long had incorporated into his artwork decades ago. The real pathbreaker would be winning the grand $10-million prize offered by the same foundation for cracking two-way interspecies communication. Any takers from India in this AI age?

India, a great teacher to the world, must learn the lessons of its own history. And none from the last half century has been as consequential as the Emergency

HEEDING HISTORY SO THAT WE AVOID REPEATING IT

GOPALKRISHNA GANDHI

Former Governor of West Bengal and Bihar

SOURAV ROY

THE subcontinent of India is a great teacher. Of world stature. It is a poor learner. Of world class.

Which other part of the world can claim to have given to the world philosopher-teachers and spiritual pathfinders like the Buddha, Mahavira, Adi Shankara, Tiruvalluvar, the Tamil saint-scholar Avvaiyyar, the Kashmiri mystic Lal Ded? Where else have risen minds such as those of Kabir, Nanak, Sri Ramakrishna, Swami Vivekananda? And scientist-scholars like Aryabhatta, Charaka, Sushruta, Bhaskara, Nagarjuna, Panini, Patanjali, Valmiki? Scarcely any, save perhaps the Greek, Roman and Chinese worlds.

Women of great transformational power who have been born to India in more recent times, such as Savitribai Phule, Ahilyabai Holkar, Pandita Ramabai, Irawati Karve, Muthulakshmi Reddy, Dakshayani Velayudham, Hansa Mehta would rank among all time exemplars.

But which other part of the world has learnt less and forgotten more than ours?

We claim antiquity as our natural partner. And of course it is. But we will be hard put for an answer if told and asked, 'Yes, you are unquestionably ancient, perhaps among the oldest if not the oldest... but, by that token, are you the wisest, the most exemplary in the matter, say, of how you treat women, children, the numerically weak?'

If we were further asked to speak the bitter truth about the status of human rights in our country, the honest majority among us will admit our record is dismal. The smart minority among us, however, will proceed to point to our great motto that tells us 'Truth alone triumphs'. But if reminded of simpler home truths like our record on the prevention of custodial torture, the number and class or caste profile of undertrials, the right to free thought and expression, the smart will invoke the vile record of the British Raj in these matters to show how we have emerged from those horrific times.

The testimony of history works with us when the villain is of foreign origin. The theatre of legends and the chiaroscuro of myths is more congenial when it comes to the report card of hard facts.

The nasty national Emergency promulgated in 1975 by a hapless President of India at the instance of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was a hard fact. Hard as nails. We were in a kind of denial, an obligatory denial, when that fact was upon us. Poor learners that we are, we threw all teachings of public policy and political ethics to the winds, and for nearly two years, wallowed in half-truths, untruths and make-believe.

Yes, we had a charismatic woman as our Prime Minister at that time. She had liberated East Pakistan from its thraldom to become Bangladesh, thereby giving the lie to the notorious Two-Nation Theory that had led to murder, loot and rapine in unprecedented scales at the time of Partition. And she had impressed those who are impressed by such things with underground tests of nuclear devices which she assured us were for peaceful purposes.

But did all that justify her pushing India into an internal dictatorship? Heavens, no! Jayaprakash Narayan quoted , for Indira Gandhi to hear, Ramdhari Singh Dinkar's famous line, 'Sinhasan khali karo ki janata aagey aayi hai' (Vacate the throne! For we the people have arrived). Not only was the throne not vacated, JP was arrested and with him countless others from the opposition.

But something else was also done then that was as diabolical as it was ingenious. The Indian National Congress's president of the day, Dev Kant Barooah, said during the height of the Emergency: "India is Indira and Indira is India." This was a conscious fluxing of the country with its then leader, knowing that the country had in its subconscious merged the motherland with the image of Mother India which, in turn, evokes the goddess Durga or Kali. Officers lost their spines, the highest court in the land succumbed to fear, a bulldozed media spread untruths on orders with efficiency.

This anniversary month of the nasty Emergency of 1975-1977 enables us to learn the lessons it has taught us by default. These lessons may be seen to include the following.

1. Aberrations in a democracy's liberal tenets toward dissent cannot and do not last. They end sooner or later because the perpetrators, their heads turned to tin and their hearts to stone, invite public opprobrium. But they need to be called out. And in clear terms, like JP did.

2. The administrator class which forms the infantry of the Executive allows itself all too easily to be co-opted into political manoeuvring. It must resist this for it is meant to guide the political class by a vision and a code that belongs to a different order of values from those of party-driven politics.

3. Legislators should give their political leaders solidarity, but only to the extent that those leaders are in solidarity with the Constitution and its owners—the people—not with themselves and their flattering mirrors.

4. The Judiciary should please but one entity: its judicial conscience. It should practice but one morality: judicial morality. It should pray before but one deity: the scales of justice.

5. And we the people must, with the aid of a free and fearless media like Ramnath Goenka would be proud of, exorcise from our minds something Babasaheb Ambedkar warned us about: hero worship in the cult of personality. And we must, recalling Gandhi, Nehru and Patel, banish from our consideration all calls for sectarian hatred and violence.

Great as our land is as a teacher, it needs to be no less a learner. India must never cease calling the emergency of 1975-77 what it was: a diabolical trauma. It must never cease to heave a breath of relief that the trauma ended. But India must do one better—make that trauma teach us how to make it impossible to recur.

(Views are personal)

FINDING THE OASIS OF CALM

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

WITH so many people evidently out of step with others in public life, it might be useful to recall a natural law or two in our individual lives: that a convoy moves at the speed of its slowest ship and a team moves at the speed of its leader. So what is a suitable response if an individual is out of sync with his or her holding pattern?

The holding pattern could be long or short. For a newly-married girl, it could be that older women in the house with superior domestic skills make her feel at a disadvantage because they are faster and better at everything. For someone idealistic and hard-working in a bureaucracy or political system, it could be an agonising lack of vision, support, coordination and delivery.

It could be the smart sibling or the popular, charming one with lots of friends, who gives brothers and sisters a complex. It could be the horrible traffic, or a taxi driver who is deliberately taking the long route, or the unhelpful person on the phone, at the counter or the front desk.

What are we hapless humans supposed to do? We could look for inspiration to people in uniform, who have signed up for hours of standing still. Their mental discipline is admirable indeed. But a preliminary and necessary stage to keeping our cool seems to be to embrace our reality, to let God mark us "with his hammer of wind/ And his graver of frost". This line is from the poem, *To a Snowflake*, by the English poet Francis Thompson. Published in 1897, it considers the delicate structure of a snowflake, seeing it as art sculpted by God using the forces of nature as his tools. In our case, these forces could mean our frequently difficult circumstances.

A classical instance of accepting reality and deciding to do something about it is the verse where Dasaratha decides to make Rama the crown prince; when grey hair, as though to pre-empt Kaikeyi, appears at his ears like old age whispering, "I am coming." This is from Kalidasa's *Raghuvamsa* 12: 2: "*Tam karnamoolamaagatya/ Palitacchadmana jara/ Kaikeyisankayevaaha/ Rameshreernyasyataamiti*.

I don't have a clue about how the armed forces, the police and the paramilitary stay calm through 'alarums and excursions', meaning the chaos they repeatedly face. It takes a level of training not available to civilians. But we do know that the Buddha's secret of being detached even while staying connected to a bad-tempered, stressed-out world was to breathe. *Prana*, the difference between being dead and alive. To train the mind, which jumps about like a monkey, the ancient yogic method that the Buddha himself is known to have practised is *Anapanasati* or mindfulness of breathing. The 'pole' of breathing in and breathing out is what we 'tie' our mind to, which detaches us from difficulties outside. This personal method is actually doable in everyday life. The next time we want to throw a (wholly justified) hissy fit, we may like to try it.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The Buddha's secret of being detached even while staying connected to a stressed-out world was to breathe mindfully. We should try it, too. Another person to learn from is author Charles Lamb, who admitted laughter into his life despite its bleakness

Cheerful company can also help us develop a good attitude. No real friends? Let's try books. What is reading but silent conversation, asked the 18th-19th century English essayist Charles Lamb. He's worth reading even today for a new millennium Indian, because he speaks of things that people always need. Of these, would you agree that the gift of perspective is the best gift of all, because it puts our tiny lives into proportion and gives us a rock to stand on? I'd call it good religion.

Many bad things happened to Charles Lamb, but he tried to stay cheerful and admit laughter and the love of friends into his life despite its bleakness. He kept his sense of fun and gladness. Such people, whoever they are, cannot but encourage us.

Here's what he wrote once in reply to a downcast letter from his friend Robert Lloyd: "O, Robert, I don't know what you call sweet. Honey and honeycomb, roses and violets, are yet in the earth. The sun and moon yet reign in Heaven, and the lesser lights keep up their pretty twinklings. Meats and drinks, sweet sights and sweet smells, a country walk, spring and autumn, follies and repentance, quarrels and reconcilements, have all a sweetness by turns. Good humour and goodnature, friends at home that love you, and friends abroad that miss you—you possess all these things, and more innumerable, and these are all sweet things. You may extract honey from everything."

Can you resist a person who says, "A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market"? Or not chuckle when he says, "Tis the privilege of friendship to talk nonsense and have her nonsense respected"? Lamb was not in denial about his own life nor did he try to pretend his troubles away. "Pain is life—the sharper, the more evidence of life," he said. But he did try very hard to live by the precept that duty is non-negotiable and that the doing of it must not be marred by bad grace.

"Our duties are to do good expecting nothing again, to bear with contrary dispositions, to be candid and forgiving, not to crave and long after a communication of sentiment and feeling," he wrote. Echoes of the *Bhagavad Gita* itself. He insisted though, that to stay a willing prisoner of melancholy was to shortchange life. "Let us live for the beauty of our own reality," he said. And so we could if we would.

(Views are personal)

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Football's role

Ref: *Bengal's Missing football hysteria* (Jun 28). Football remains popular in Bengal, but the intense social passion once associated with it appears less pronounced than before. What may once have served as a major emotional outlet now functions more like it does in many economically developed regions. Whether or not one accepts this argument, it suggests that as economic opportunities expand, the social role of art, cinema and sports may gradually shift from being primary outlets of collective aspiration to becoming one among many forms of entertainment and self-expression.
S Sundareswara Pandiyan, Chennai

Sovereign ID

Ref: *Are you and I Indian citizens?* (Jun 28). All of us were hitherto made to believe that Aadhaar, EPIC ID and passport automatically conferred Indian citizenship to us. If the administration itself is not sure, they should hurry with a sovereign citizen card. They must, however, bear in mind that such documents are issued after scrutiny of multiple documents.
S Madhavan Thampi, Haripad

Water woes

Ref: *Beyond El Niño* (Jun 28). Among many major issues is supply chain management. Furthermore, the much-emphasised pointer to desalination can additionally solve most of our water woes and river disputes, elevate southern states from near-arid status apart from creating employment in allied sectors.
Mahima Thakur Singh, email

VIP culture

Ref: *Make smaller VIP convoys* (Jun 27). Convoys have largely disrupted public life in India. Public mobility and daily commerce, too, are restricted. The police, on their part, panic as VIPs abuse powers and come down heavily on them in case of incoordination. It's high time to rethink relaxations.
Gokul Krishna, Kottayam

Temple run

Ref: *Gen secy Rai resigns* (Jun 28). It's painful for the innumerable devotees to learn that their revered temples have assumed the dual status of centres of worship and large-scale loot at the same time. An independent judicial inquiry only can reveal the truth and bring the culprits to book. Giving a thought on the deterrent measures, let's remove the negative atmosphere prevailing in our shrines first—that tempts the lazy and greedy minds to do the unlawful.
S N Anil, email

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Pawan Khera @Pawankhera
The scriptures consider the theft of divine offerings unpardonable. These self-appointed custodians of Hinduism have stolen divine offerings.

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh
The dark games of associates from Maharashtra and Karnataka won't work. The public will demand an account of 'temple offerings-donations-contributions'

Amit Malviya @amitmalviya
While the Government honoured our martyrs with dignity and gratitude, the Opposition chose to weaponise their sacrifice for partisan politics.

Asst commandants to become deputy commandants • Watchdog warns groups using crowdfunding campaigns

Over 263 CRPF officers get first promotions in 15 years after litigation pause

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

MORE than 250 officers of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) have received their first career promotion after serving for 14-15 years, ending years of stagnation caused by prolonged litigation and unresolved service issues related to seniority and vacancies in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

The CRPF Headquarters has promoted 263 Assistant Commandants (ACs), the entry-level officer rank in the CAPFs, to the rank of Deputy Commandant (DC). The long-awaited promotions follow a Supreme Court order issued on April 16 that clarified the legal position on pending issues. The CRPF subsequently pursued the matter with the MHA, paving way for promotion orders.

The development is being viewed as a major morale booster within the force. "These officers waited 14-15 years for their first promotion, which ideally should have come within five years," a senior CRPF cadre officer said.

Despite the promotions, the officers will continue to serve in their existing assignments for the time being, as fresh posting orders have not been issued, officials said.

The CRPF described the promotions as a "significant milestone" in a post on X, with several field formations holding rank-pinning ceremonies to honour the promoted officers.

Officials said the promotions are expected to trigger a cascading effect. Vacancies at the AC level will enable promotions from the Inspector rank, which is liekly to facilitate advancement in subordinate ranks.

Promotional stagnation has remained a long-standing concern within the force. In April, CRPF Director General GP Singh had assured personnel that efforts were underway to address what he described as the force's "biggest problem"—delays in career progression.

Social media, digital funds pose terror risks, says FATF

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Financial Action Task Force (FATF), headquartered in Paris, France, has warned that terrorist groups are increasingly exploiting social media, instant messaging and streaming platforms to raise and move funds, as digital technologies create new avenues for financing terror activities.

In a latest report, the global anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing watchdog said the rapid evolution of social media, messaging and streaming platforms (SMSPs) has significantly expanded the financial tools available to terrorist networks.

Once used for communication and propaganda, these platforms now incorporate payment systems, virtual assets, creator monetisation features and cross-border financial services, making them attractive channels for fundraising and financial transfers, it noted.

The report, Detecting and Disrupting Terrorist Financing Activity Through Social Media, Instant Messaging Applications and Streaming Platforms (SMSPs), a copy of which is with this newspaper, builds on the FATF's 2025 Comprehensive Update on Terrorist Financing Risks and highlights a range of financing methods employed by terror organisations.

According to the FATF, terrorist groups are increasingly using fraudulent humanitarian crowdfunding campaigns, creator-economy features, virtual asset donations, live-streaming and tipping functions to solicit funds, the report highlighted.

"Such entities are also exploiting QR codes and rotating cryptocurrency wallets to receive donations while using encrypted messaging, disappearing content and coded language to evade law enforcement and financial intelligence agencies," the report read.

The report also found significant gaps in countries' preparedness to address these evolving risks. Fewer than 30% of reporting jurisdictions currently include terrorist financing risks associated with social media, messaging and streaming platforms in risk assessments.

"Through its work, the FATF has found that less than 30% of reporting jurisdictions are covering terrorist financing risks through SMSPs in their national risk assessments," it said.

FATF president Elisa de Anda Madrazo, in a statement, said the shift to digital platforms has dramatically expanded the reach of terrorist financing networks.

'Look inwards': India to Pak on terror infra

New Delhi on Sunday rejected Pakistan's allegations linking it to the militant attack on a Sindh Rangers compound that killed four personnel, terming the claims "baseless" and urging Islamabad to dismantle terror infra operating from its own soil. Responding to media queries, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal asked Pakistan to "look inwards" on addressing terrorism within its borders.

As G-RAM-G launch nears, Oppn plans for SC challenge

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WITH the Centre set to roll out the new rural job scheme, VB-G RAM G Act, from July 1, opposition parties and rural rights groups have stepped up their attacks, saying the new framework could centralise decision-making, increase financial burden on states, and dilute the legal guarantees available under MGNREGA.

While rural workers have announced nationwide protest against VB-G RAM G on July 1, the Congress on Sunday said several states have raised concerns regarding the new scheme. Congress-ruled Telangana is considering moving the Supreme Court against the new law. The Telangana government said it will consult Karnataka and Kerala to assess whether the two states are willing to pursue a common legal strategy to protect the states' financial interests.

Even BJP-governed states, such as MP, Bihar, and Uttarakhand, have opposed additional expenditure burden on states, said Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh in a post on X. "Four other state governments have opposed the scheme's blackout period during the peak agricultural season," Ramesh said. Even MP, the home state of Union rural development minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, is voicing concerns, Ramesh alleged.

The government has said 26 states have completed the procedural requirements for implementing the new scheme.

Saptagiri Ulaka, Congress MP and chairman of the standing committee on rural development, said, "Our first concern is that MGNREGA guarantees the right to work, whereas VB-G RAM G is a supply-driven scheme. Under the new scheme, the financial burden is expected to shift to a 60:40 split in the Centre-state sharing model. If a state government is unable to contribute its share, the scheme will be stopped."

26 states completed procedural requirements: Govt

The government has said that 26 states have completed the procedural requirements necessary for implementing the new scheme, while four states—Jharkhand, Karnataka, Telangana, and Mizoram are yet to complete all the formalities necessary.

Cong completes 1st leg of party reshuffle, mulls next changes in election states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

WITH the first round of crucial appointments in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Haryana, the Congress has signalled the beginning of the party's wider organisational rejig in the coming weeks.

According to sources, priority is being given to states heading for Assembly polls early next year, including Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Goa and Manipur.

On Saturday, the party appointed Manickam Tagore as the new Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) president, replacing K Selvaperunthagai. The appointment of Lok Sabha MP Tagore, who played a key role in facilitating the Congress-TVK alliance, is seen as a significant move to consolidate the party's position in 2029 Lok Sabha elections.

A day earlier, the party named Rajendra Pal Gautam as the new Uttar Pradesh Congress in-charge. Gautam, a prominent Dalit leader and former Delhi minister, is seen as part of the Congress's strategy to strengthen its outreach among SC voters, who constitute around 21% of the state's population. The move is also in line with Rahul Gandhi's emphasis on increasing the representation of Dalits, OBCs and other marginalised communities in the party's organisational structure.

In Punjab, where the Congress high command is weighing a change in leadership, the race has narrowed to a few senior leaders. According to sources, former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and former deputy CM-Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa have emerged as frontrunners to head the state unit.

Rajasthan may also see a leadership change, with PCC chief Govind Singh Dotasra completing six years in office. Sources said former deputy CM Sachin Pilot is likely to succeed the former.

The party is also expected to reshuffle AICC state in-charges, with organisational changes likely across several states.

INSIDER TRACK

Foreign training, empty classrooms

Government officials flying abroad for "advanced training" have prompted the Centre to ask an obvious question: what about the training institutes back home? The government has discovered it doesn't have a complete count of its training institutes or a clear picture of the training scenario. Hence, the Centre has launched a nationwide mapping exercise covering government training institutes and academies run by ministries, departments, PSUs and state governments. The aim is to identify who trains whom, what facilities exist, and which campuses are sitting largely idle. The exercise will create a comprehensive database of institutes, their capacities and areas of expertise. Armed with that, the government plans to build a coordinated training framework for employees.

Between faith and aspirations

Whispers of a possible Union Cabinet reshuffle have once again set off a familiar pre-shuffle ritual, where politics, pilgrimage and hopeful speculation tend to converge. Temples across the country are reportedly witnessing a rise in political visitors. Ministers unsure of their continuation in office and MPs eyeing Cabinet berths are making appearances at places of worship. Party insiders say the preparations are two-pronged. On one hand, leaders are turning to shrines and astrologers. On the other, they are carefully calibrating political visibility. Varanasi, Ujjain, Khatu Shyam and Shirdi have seen some political traffic. Meanwhile, the digital front remains equally active, with leaders amplifying governance messaging to stay in good stead within party hierarchy.

Andaman absence triggers buzz

The power corridors in the national capital are abuzz with the question of what next for Andaman & Nicobar Chief Secretary Chandra Bhushan Kumar, a 1995 batch AGMUT cadre IAS officer, after his absence from a PAC meeting. The absence has raised eyebrows in bureaucratic circles and triggered speculation over whether the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) will issue what insiders call a "marching or staying order" on his continuation. The PAC, chaired by Congress leader KC Venugopal, was expected to examine aspects of the contentious Great Nicobar infrastructure projects. Kumar's absence has added intrigue, especially as officials note the panel was likely to ask him detailed questions on approvals, execution and planning. For now, there is no official word from MHA, but the absence has clearly not gone unnoticed.

Refreshment bills on diet

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has decided it is time to put its refreshments bill on a stricter diet. Under a new rule, serving tea, snacks or dinner at official meetings will now require approval from senior officers of at least Additional Secretary rank or equivalent. In other words, the samosa now needs a senior signature. The move is aimed at tightening spending discipline and bringing uniformity to how hospitality expenses are cleared across the ministry. Officials say the idea is to ensure "prudent expenditure management" and avoid casual approvals for non-core spending like refreshments and dinners. The hierarchy upgrade means small spreads at official meetings will not pass quietly through routine channels. Well, fiscal discipline can begin with the snack table.

Long resume of Seychelles tortoise

The Aldabra giant tortoise, native to Seychelles' Aldabra Atoll and among the longest living species on Earth, has a diplomatic resume that moves at its own geological pace. In India, it has drifted between zoology, folklore, and the occasional brush with colonial memory. Kolkata's most famous tortoise resident was Adwaita, meaning "the only one" in Bengali, housed at Alipore Zoo. In popular lore, he was loosely linked to Robert Clive, first governor of Bengal Presidency. The modern diplomatic thread began years later, when Seychelles gifted Aldabra tortoises to India in 2014 and 2018. The connection again resurfaced during PM Narendra Modi's Seychelles visit, where he visited the Giant Tortoise Enclosure and recalled how the tortoise has become an unlikely ambassador of bilateral ties.

India's contribution to BRICS: Nari Shakti moves from promise to delivery

ANNPURNA DEVI
Union Minister for Women and Child Development

INDIA assumed the BRICS Chairship on 1 January 2026 under the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability." On the women's track, our contribution is a specific one. We are not bringing merely a slogan or a gallery of success stories to admire. We are bringing a working architecture, one that has reached hundreds of millions of women, and one that does not end with India but begins there, ready to be built upon wherever it travels.

That distinction is the point. For more than a decade, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has pursued women-led development as a national mission, on a scale few countries can match. During our G20 Presidency in 2023, India helped shift the global vocabulary from "women's development" to "women-led development," not a change of phrase but a change of premise, from treating women as beneficiaries to treating them as decision-makers. The question we bring to Kochi is the one that follows that shift: once the promise is made, how do you deliver it, at scale, to the last woman in the last village? India has spent ten years answering that in practice rather than merely in principle.

This disposition is not new to Bharat; it is old. Long before the language of development, our Sanskriti envisioned the feminine as the very source of power, knowledge, and prosperity, the three faculties on which any society rises, revered as the Goddesses Durga, Saraswati, and Lakshmi. Divine power itself is named Shakti, and an oft-quoted Sanskrit verse holds that where women are honoured, the Gods themselves rejoice. Nor was this veneration only symbolic: women seers such as Lopamudra and Ghosha composed hymns of the Rig Veda, and philosophers such as Gargi and Maitreyi held their own in the great debates of the Upanishads. For Bharat, then, women-led development is not a borrowed idea but the contemporary form of an ancient one.

Begin with decision-making itself. Nearly half of all elected representatives in India's Panchayati Raj Institutions are women, among the largest pools of elected women leaders anywhere, and the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023, reserves a third of the seats in Parliament and the State Assemblies for women. Representation is not where women-led development ends; it is where it begins. A model that delivers services to women but excludes them from the decisions that shape those services is not women-led at all.

The delivery architecture rests on three components that work only in combination. The first is reach: Digital Public Infrastructure places benefits directly in women's hands, with Aadhaar-linked transfers removing the intermediaries that once diverted support before it arrived. The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana shows this reach in practice; over 4.26 crore mothers have received more than ₹20,060 crore in maternity benefits transferred directly to their Aadhaar-seeded accounts. The second is institutions: under DAY-NRLM, more than 10.05 crore rural women have been organised into over 90.90 lakh Self-Help Groups, the largest network of women-led community institutions in the world. The third is mobility, a deliberate path upward rather than a permanent seat at the bottom of the value chain. India now deploys 65,949 SHG women as Business Correspondent Agents, the BC Sakhis, who carry deposit, credit, remittance, and pension services into remote areas. The woman who once queued for a benefit now delivers it.

Together, these turn participation into income and ownership. Under the Lakhpati Didi initiative, 1.48 crore SHG women had reached an annual income of at least ₹1 lakh by June 2025, and a National Campaign on Entrepreneurship launched in January 2026 aims to train 50 lakh more through 50,000 Community Resource Persons. The same upward path runs through formal enterprise: 69 per cent of loans under PMMY and 84 per cent of Stand-Up India beneficiaries are women, and of the 2.12 lakh startups recognised by DPIIT, more than 1.02 lakh have at least one-woman Director or partner, many of them in smaller cities rather than the metros. What we offer BRICS is not these brand names but the sequence beneath them: reach first, then institutions, then a structured route from beneficiary to entrepreneur.

The numbers track this shift. India's female labour force participation has risen from 23.3 per cent in 2017-18 to 41.7 per cent in 2023-24, and female unemployment has fallen from 5.6 to 3.2 per cent over the same period. With more women now in the workforce than ever before, our focus is turning to the next stage further improving the quality and income of their work.

Numbers track the shift. India's female labour force participation has risen from 23.3 per cent in 2017-18 to 41.7 per cent in 2023-24, and female unemployment has fallen from 5.6 to 3.2 per cent over same period. Focus now shifts to improving quality and income.

This year's women's track has identified four priority areas, and one maps directly onto our experience: the role of women in climate action, food security, and nutrition. Here, the evidence is unambiguous: when women participate in decision-making, nutrition improves, and communities absorb shocks better. This is not abstract. Women farmers in Jharkhand hold the knowledge of seed varieties that survive dry spells; women pastoralists in Rajasthan know the migration routes that carry livestock through drought. India's task has been to build institutions that use this expertise rather than bypass it. Mission Poshan 2.0 runs through the Anganwadi network, staffed by women who are its trusted last mile; climate adaptation runs the same way, from the high-altitude water-harvesting structures built by women in Ladakh to the mangrove-protection committees on the Odisha coast. And women increasingly operate the technology of adaptation rather than merely receive it: under the Namo Drone Didi scheme, SHG women are trained to fly agricultural drones—a deliberate move into higher-skilled, higher-income work.

One thread is distinctly India's own. Through One District One Product, now spanning 1,102 products across 761 districts, women's collectives turn local specialties — handlooms, GI-tagged crafts, regional foods into branded, increasingly export-bound goods, with the State laying the market rails: reserved retail space at airports under the AVSAR scheme and a dedicated GeM storefront for women-led enterprises under Vocal for Local. This is sustainability in its most literal sense — local materials, local skills and local supply chains that keep value inside the community and a form of growth that does not require a woman to leave her district to reach a market.

Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, women-led development is not just an aspiration a government announces; it is a system it builds, component by component, until it reaches the last woman it was meant for. At the Ministerial meeting in Kochi this July, India will present this architecture as a contribution, not a prescription offered for what others might learn from it and adapt to conditions of their own.That system, and the evidence that it works, is what India brings to BRICS. The exchange runs both ways: India comes to Kochi ready to learn from the best practices its BRICS partners bring, and to share its own.

CAPTURED

A tigress that had killed two individuals and struck terror in villages located in the buffer area of the Nawegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra's Gondia, was captured on Sunday.

3 JUVENILES STRANGLE MINOR BOY TO DEATH IN JAIPUR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	30	Mumbai	29	27
Bhopal	34	26	Panaji	27	25
Jaipur	39	31	Patna	36	28
Amritsar	39	31	Lucknow	38	30
Chennai	36	28	Port Blair	29	27
Kolkata	35	28	Imphal	29	23
Srinagar	33	19	Chandigarh	37	31

Modi lauds Nalanda univ for revival of ancient tradition of 'shastrarth'

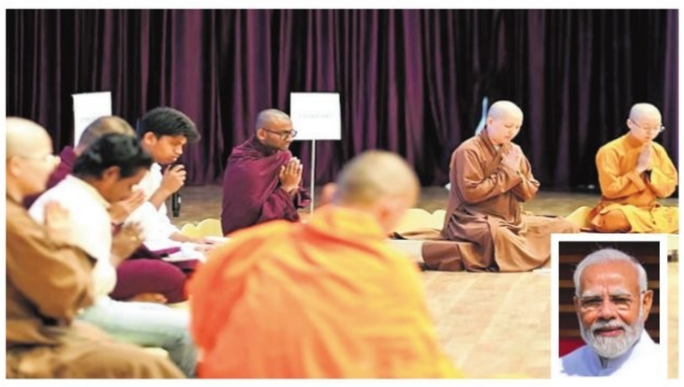
In Mann ki Baat episode, PM says it is 'a disciplined process of debate, deep contemplation'

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday emphasised the revival of 'shastrarth'—the ancient Indian tradition of scholarly discourse and dialogue on scriptures and philosophical subjects—during his monthly radio programme Mann ki Baat.

He praised Nalanda University for reviving the centuries-old practice. The tradition, which had been integral to the pedagogical methods of the ancient Nalanda and Vikramashila universities, was recently revived by the University through "shastrarth 2026", organised ahead of its third Convocation. The PM said, "Nalanda University has revived our ancient tradition of shastrarth—intellectual discourse. Our Nalanda University—dating back thousands of years—is now shaping India's destiny in a new avatar."

Emphasising its educational value, he added, "This process also teaches us to listen to and understand the views of others with patience. I am pleased that Nalanda University has incorporated this into its convocation ceremony. Nearly half of the participating students came from other countries. This effort to bridge an ancient tradition with contemporary times is highly commendable."



Two honours to recognise excellence in dialogue

During the event, the university hosted 23 thematic shastrartha panels. As part of the convocation, the university also instituted two honours to recognise excellence in scholarly dialogue—the 'Nalanda Shastrartha Sammana' for teachers who have nurtured the spirit of intellectual inquiry and the Nalanda Sastrartha Puraskara for students demonstrating exceptional scholarly debate and intellectual openness.

Located at Rajgir in Bihar's Nalanda district, Nalanda University has revived the shastrarth tradition to provide a fresh direction to India's knowledge systems in the age of artificial intelligence. The scholarly exercise was organised on May 17–18 this year, immediately before the university's third convocation.

Explaining the significance of the initiative, a University's official statement said, "Conceived as a platform for dissertation defence and scholarly debate, the programme seeks to renew the spirit of the Guru-Sisya Parampara through meaningful intellectual engagement rather than ceremonial observance alone."

The programme began with the chanting of the Nataka Mangal Gana, followed by an address by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Sachin Chaturvedi. A panel on 'The Tradition of Shastrartha: History, Practice and Contemporary Relevance' brought together scholars and practitioners from diverse streams of India's knowledge traditions.

PM hails India's self-reliance in defence sector

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday highlighted a series of achievements that underscore India's growing self-reliance, particularly in the defence and aerospace sectors.

In his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat, the PM recalled attending a recent naval event in Kolkata where INS Dunagiri, INS Sanshodhak and INS Agray were inducted into the Indian Navy. He emphasised that the warships were designed and manufactured entirely in India, describing them as symbols of the country's expanding indigenous defence capabilities.

Modi praised India's achievements in aviation, noting that the made-in-India C-295 transport aircraft had successfully completed its maiden flight. He said 40 of the 56 aircraft being procured by the Indian Air Force would be manufactured in India—a boost to the country's MSME and aerospace sectors while generating employment and strengthening the vision of a self-reliant India.

Didi camp goes to police against Ritabrata, MLAs for using TMC symbol

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

THE Trinamool Congress faction, led by former CM Mamata Banerjee, on Sunday lodged two separate complaints against the rebel MLAs led by Ritabrata Banerjee, escalating the battle between the two groups for control of the party. Dola Sen, Rajya Sabha MP of the Mamata camp, lodged the complaints at Kalighat and New Town police stations, accusing the rebel legislators of using the party's name, symbol and organisational designations to mislead party workers and supporters.

Sources said the complaint filed at New Town urged the police to identify masterminds of the meeting of the dissidents MLAs and Kolkata Municipal Corporation councillors. The Mamata camp sought a probe into the source of funds used for organising meetings, printing publicity material and running social media campaigns in the TMC's name.

At Kalighat, the complaint named Ritabrata and other rebel MLAs, including Arup Roy, Javed Khan, Sandipan Saha and Biplab Mitra. The Mamata loyalist faction challenged the validity of positions claimed by rebel leaders. It cited a recent communication by Ritabrata to Speaker Rathindra Bose in which he described him as the party's "general secretary", a designation which, according to the Mamata camp, has not been given to him.

Reacting to the complaints, Ritabrata told the media, "Anyone can lodge a complaint anywhere. Laws and Election Commission still exist in the country. We have faith in laws and Election Commission of India." The Speaker has recognised Ritabrata as the Leader of Opposition in the House considering the support of 58 dissident MLAs.

At a meeting held at a hotel in New Town, the dissident MLAs, who claimed themselves as 'real Trinamool', formed the 30-member national working committee. Arup Roy was made the chairman of the committee and Mamata was removed as the TMC chairperson.

On Saturday, the Ritabrata camp held another gathering in east Kolkata, drawing 47 former KMC councillors, which political observers viewed as an effort to strengthen its urban support base ahead of the civic polls likely later this year.

CHANDIGARH DIARY

HARPREET BAJWA
Our correspondent in Chandigarh
hsbajwa73@gmail.com

Haryana govt seeks 2nd extension for chief secy

With the Haryana Chief Secretary, 1990 batch IAS officer Anurag Rastogi's term ending on June 30, the state government has sought a second service extension for him. If the Centre approves the proposal, Rastogi will continue as the state's top bureaucrat until June 2027. Even as the two senior-most officers of the 1990 batch, Sudhir Rajpal and Sumita Mishra, and another senior officer in the CM's office have been doing the rounds, the names of two other officers have also been floated. But the government was keen on retaining Rastogi, appointed Chief Secretary on October 31, 2024. Rastogi reached the age of superannuation on June 30, 2025, and got a one-year extension.

Saini stops cavalcade to help accident victims

Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini assisted two youths who were seriously injured in a road accident on the Ladwa-Babain road in Kurukshetra district. He promptly halted his convoy and asked his personal physician to provide first aid to the injured. He also ensured that both the injured were taken to the hospital in an advanced life support ambulance accompanying his cavalcade. He also spoke to both of the injured to check on their condition. As a public representative, Saini emphasised that it is our primary duty to assist those in need. The injured were identified as Amit (27) from Beed's Kalwa village and Rajat Kumar (30) from Surajgarh.

Deepfakes emerge as new political weapon

With less than a year left for the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections, deepfakes and AI-generated content is increasingly being used to target and marginalize religious heads and political leaders through derogatory memes and fake videos. Thus, there are growing calls for legal action against users and platforms hosting such content. After hurling blasphemy allegations against each other, the ruling AAP and the SAD are now indulging in an ugly political deepfake war on social media. Now, in the latest of the past few days, objectionable AI-generated videos of Akal Takht officiating Jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaj have surfaced on social media, triggering a row.

LIQUOR SCAM

ED summons former J'khand minister, son

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

THE ED has summoned ex-finance minister Rameshwar Oraon, his son Rohit and a retired excise commissioner in the multi-crore Jharkhand liquor scam, asking them to bring documents related to the case.

ED sources said the agency, which took over the case originally registered by the state Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), suspects that Rameshwar and Rohit may have played a role in the liquor scam. "The agency also seeks to determine the extent of Rohit's involvement in facilitating the entry of Chhattisgarh-based companies into Jharkhand," a source said.

Ten people have been named as accused in the case, including IAS officer Vinay Kumar Choubey, excise department joint secretary Gajendra Singh, and businessman Vinay Singh. The ED is currently probing suspicious financial transactions and the role of private entities in implementing the new excise policy.

Investigators suspect that Rohit helped facilitate contracts for some Chhattisgarh-based liquor companies operating in Jharkhand.

Ladakh imposes ₹2L fine on tourists for off-roading in Thar in Pangong lake

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

IN a move to safeguard the ecologically fragile landscape of Ladakh, the union territory administration for the first time has imposed a penalty of ₹2 lakh on four tourists for illegal off-roading in Pangong Lake and other protected wildlife areas under the Wildlife Protection Act, officials said.

The wildlife department of Ladakh imposed a fine of ₹50,000 each on four vehicles found violating wildlife protection laws in separate incidents. The offenders, from Himachal, Chandigarh, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, were penalised for driving their cars into Pangong Lake and protected wildlife zones in Changthang, Hanle and Nubra Valley in the last few days.

After investigations, all four vehicles were impounded and released only after the owners paid the prescribed penalties. "The four offenders paid the penalty of ₹50,000 each and later got their vehicles released," an official spokesman said.

The action follows a series of violations detected by wildlife officials during routine patrolling and through social media surveillance, and reported them to the LG secretariat. Officials said the action will serve as a deterrent and encourage visitors to explore Ladakh responsibly without compromising its unique biodiversity.

Ladakh Lt Governor V K Saxena said, "Off-road driving within or in the vicinity of protected areas is a punishable offence under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Stringent action will be taken against all such violators."

While cases of illegal off-roading and stunts have been on the rise in recent times in Ladakh, it is for the first time that such a strict penalty has been imposed on car riders.

Serial accused from Bihar to be probed for Maha test leak

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

A team from Maharashtra Police, investigating the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) paper leak case, has met Bihar's top police officials and sought their cooperation as the alleged mastermind behind the operation is suspected to be a native of the state.

Officials said that Bijendra Gupta, a resident of Samastipur district in north Bihar, is believed to be the mastermind behind the scam. He has earlier been accused of leaking exam papers in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and Bihar for nearly 25 years. The Maharashtra police team met senior police officers and the Bihar Special Task Force (STF) to nab the suspected mastermind. So far, the Maharashtra Police have arrested three people in this connection and recovered four sets of question papers during a trap operation in the Kongaon area of Thane district.

During interrogation, the three accused claimed that Gupta was the mastermind behind the operation. The nabbed accused have been identified as Aakash Kumar and Rajiv Sah from Bihar and Dheeraj Kumar from Haryana. The three arrested by Thane police had flown to Thane from Delhi to fix a deal worth ₹1.5 crore.

4 SETS FOUND

1. Three people have been arrested and four sets of question papers found
2. Bijendra Gupta a resident of Samastipur, is believed to be the mastermind
3. He has been accused of leaking papers in Odisha, MP and Bihar for 25 years

According to police sources, the papers were supplied to these operatives by a syndicate based in Delhi, whose backend was operating directly from Bihar. A police team is currently camping in Bihar to apprehend the mastermind of this interstate network.

It is not for the first time that Bihar-based gangs prominently figured in cases related to question paper leaks or members of solver gangs impersonating as genuine candidates in the competitive examinations.

The strings of the NEET scam of 2024 were associated with the infamous Nalanda-based Sanjiv Mukhiya. His network was so strong that he was able to infiltrate printing presses and courier companies in various states.

Now, with the Bihar and Delhi connection emerging in the Maharashtra TET case, the involvement of former operatives from Sanjiv Mukhiya's network may also be involved in this scam as well.

Many of the Mukhiya network's operatives are out of jail or on bail. Investigating agencies looking into the matter are currently trying to find out whether Bihar's 'Nalanda-Samastipur' gang is part of the Maharashtra teachers' paper leak case.

C'garh to create farmers' carbon credit network

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

IN a pioneering move toward climate-resilient farming, the Dhamtari district administration has inked a strategic partnership with PRITHU, a leading climate-technology organisation, to establish it as Chhattisgarh's first Model Carbon Agriculture district.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), besides an environmental pledge, is projected as a massive economic game-changer. Over its life cycle, the initiative is estimated to pump a staggering ₹250 crore in additional income directly into the pockets of local farmers through the generation of international carbon credits.

The roadmap rolls out two interconnected projects designed to heal the soil while safeguarding natural resources. The first is Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) enhancement project to revitalise approximately 80,000 hectares of farmland across two distinct phases, focusing on trapping carbon in the earth to boost soil fertility and water retention. And secondly, Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) paddy project: spanning 30,000 hectares, this scientific technique shifts away from constant flooding to controlled water intervals in paddy fields, dramatically cutting down water waste and slashing harmful methane emissions without hurting crop yields.

Strategic partnership inked with PRITHU, a climate-tech firm

Move will establish state's first model carbon agriculture dist

Balanced development

Initiative to pump **₹250-cr income** into local farmers' pockets

First project will revitalise **80,000** hectares of farmland across two phases

PRITHU IS BACKING THIS VISION WITH AN IMMEDIATE ₹5 CRORE INVESTMENT OVER 3 YRS

Second project will ensure controlled water intervals in paddy fields

PRITHU is backing this vision with an immediate ₹5 crore investment over the next three years. Rather than just dropping technology into fields, this funding will anchor extensive farmer capacity building, fuel exchange programmes, and spearhead specialised skill development to create green-collar jobs for rural youth.

Dhamtari has a proud legacy of leading where others follow. "This carbon-smart shift will unlock unprecedented financial avenues for local growers while actively fulfilling global sustainable development goals," said Abinash Mishra, district collector.

"The move is to create a self-sustaining ecosystem where farmers thrive through healthier soil, water conservation, and reliable secondary streams of income. We are confident Dhamtari will soon stand as a national blueprint for climate finance," said Prabal Tomar, co-founder of PRITHU.

Deputy Director (Agriculture) Monesh Sahu said the regional department will provide hands-on scientific training to ensure farmers transition smoothly into this profitable new era of carbon-smart farming. Dhamtari's innovation-driven blueprint proves that eco-consciousness and agricultural profitability can walk hand-in-hand and will do more than just transform local fields, officials in Dhamtari said.

According to Dhamtari Collector Mishra, the objective is to create sustainable opportunities for farmers.

Three U'khand men to undergo jail term for 20 years for 2023 gang rape

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

A local court in Uttarakhand's Champawat district has sentenced three men to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) each in a 2023 gang-rape case that had triggered widespread outrage in the region.

On Saturday, District and Sessions Judge Anuj Kumar Sangal held the three accused guilty under Section 376D of the Indian Penal Code, which deals with gang rape.

The court also imposed a fine of ₹75,000 on each convict. If any of the convicts fail to pay the fine, he will have to undergo an additional one year of rigorous imprisonment.

Sohan Singh, 22, Rahul Singh, 25, and Bablu Singh, 32, all residents of Jhalakudi in Champawat district, have been identified as the convicts.

On October 7, 2023, a woman was gang-raped in a village under the Champawat Kotwali police station limits.

As per the prosecution, the survivor had filed a named complaint with police, accusing the three men of raping her. The police registered a case at Champawat Kotwali and launched an investigation. After completing a probe into the matter, police filed a chargesheet with the court. "The conviction was based on consistent testimony, medical findings and supporting evidence placed before the court," a prosecution official said.

Besides the sentence under Section 376D, the court also convicted Sohan Singh and Rahul Singh under Section 342 of the IPC, which deals with wrongful confinement, and sentenced them to one year of rigorous imprisonment each.

However, Sohan Singh and Rahul Singh were both acquitted of the charge that was related to kidnapping.

Under the new criminal laws, the corresponding provision is now covered under Section 137 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. The court has directed that all sentences in the case would run concurrently.

MP stopped from meeting murder victim's kin

High drama unfolded at Shankaracharya Chowk in Haridwar on Sunday after police stopped Nagina MP Chandrashekhar Azad and Khanpur MLA Umesh Kumar from proceeding to Tehri Garhwal to meet the family of Ketan Lal, a Dalit youth was killed over his friendship with a girl from the upper caste community.

Tehran warns against Strait of Hormuz bypass as US, Iran trade fresh attacks

Fresh exchanges across the Gulf test a fragile ceasefire and threaten global energy supplies

WASHINGTON

IRAN's top diplomat warned Sunday that any attempt by shipping to bypass its preferred route through the Strait of Hormuz would "increase tensions" in the West Asia, as US and Iranian forces again traded attacks across the vital seaway. The exchanges underscored the fragility of a Pakistan-brokered agreement aimed at ending the war launched by the United States and Israel in February, which disrupted shipping through the strait and rattled global energy markets.

Although a ceasefire took effect in April, sporadic violence has continued in the Gulf region, with ships passing through the Strait of Hormuz often the spark. Early on Sunday, US Central Command (CENTCOM) said it had attacked 10 Iranian military targets over "continued Iranian aggression against commercial shipping". Iran then said it had carried out retaliatory strikes against US bases in Kuwait and Bahrain in response. Both Kuwait and Bahrain denounced the attacks.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, centre, arrives to meet his Iraqi counterpart Fouad Hussein at Baghdad in Iraq on Sunday | AP

WAR WATCH

Tehran has continued to insist on controlling passage through the vital strait, through which a fifth of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas travel in normal times, something it did not have before the war.

At the moment, Iran insists ships transiting the strait pass through a corridor close to its own shores, though this week dozens of vessels have travelled along the opposite side of the waterway, hugging the Omani coast. "Any attempt to adopt new or separate arrangements compared to what is underway by the Islamic Republic of Iran, will only lead to more complicated situations and delays in the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, and will increase the tensions," Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said.

"I urge all parties... to adhere to the memorandum of understanding and not to allow this MoU to deviate from its course." Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Sunday they were taking measures to control traffic in the strait and that vessels in violation of those measures would be dealt with more firmly than before. Mohammad Mokhber, adviser to Iran's supreme leader, wrote on X that as long as Iran managed the strait, Washington's "hegemonic dreams in the region will not be realised". *AFP*

Vehicles pass a burned "Lebanon first" billboard near Hezbollah's Beirut stronghold following Lebanon's framework agreement with Israel | AFP

Israel strikes Lebanon despite peace deal

BEIRUT: Israel launched fresh strikes on Lebanon on Sunday, two days after both countries signed a US-backed framework agreement aimed at ending decades of conflict. Lebanon's state media reported multiple strikes, while Israel said a soldier was killed in southern Lebanon and vowed to continue operations in its self-declared security zone. Hezbollah rejected the deal as "null and void", warning it would spark "internal conflict".

Alarm over Don's plan for Syria to fight Hezbollah

BEIRUT

AS the White House has soured on Israel's war with Hezbollah in Lebanon, US President Donald Trump has shocked many in the region by pushing an alternative: Let Syria fight the Iran-backed militant group instead.

He has suggested that the battle-hardened and Islamist-led insurgents who overthrew Syria's autocratic President Bashar Assad a year and a half ago and formed a new government would do a better job of rooting out Hezbollah than the Israeli army. Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa has said he has no interest in doing so, and has asserted that Trump's comments were misconstrued. But Trump has doubled down on the idea.

Although it remains unclear how serious the White House is about the proposal, the prospect of a Syrian invasion has raised alarms in Lebanon — and also in Israel, which regards al-Sharaa's Islamist-led government with suspicion and has seized control of a strip of southern Syria since he took power. Syria has also become the site of rising tensions between Israel and Turkey — a key backer of al-Sharaa's government — as both seek to limit the other's influence. Israeli security officials convened a meeting on Wednesday, an official familiar with the matter said. *AP*

France sees 1,000 excess deaths as Europe swelters in deadly heatwave

BERLIN/GENEVA

FRANCE saw around 1,000 additional deaths last week at the height of its record-smashing heat wave, the country's public health agency said Sunday, as the head of the World Health Organization warned that Europe is now the fastest-warming continent and needs to do more to protect its citizens.

And across Europe, "more than 1,300 excess deaths have been recorded since 21 June linked to high temperatures in Europe", WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on X. "Heat stress is often called the 'silent killer' – and European homes, workplaces and schools were not built for these temperatures," he said.

At least 191 million people are forecast to endure temperatures of at least 35 degrees Celsius on Sunday in Europe, with the heat particularly intense in Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, according to AFP estimates. Germany marked a new record for the third day in a row with 41.7 degrees Celsius in Neißemünde, near the border with Poland, which baked under its new all-time high of 40.5 degrees Celsius. The Czech Republic also experienced its hottest day ever with 41.1 degrees Celsius.

A new study from the World Weather Attribution, a Europe-based collaboration of scientists, reported Friday that the record-breaking heat and humidity in Europe this past week would not have been possible without climate change.

Driven by climate change and global warming, the phenomenon of the "once-in-a-generation" heatwave is now occurring nearly annual, Tedros said. *Agencies*

14 killed after Saudi chopper crashes in Ras Tanura

RIYADH

A helicopter crash in Saudi Arabia killed 14 Saudi citizens on Sunday, the kingdom's official press agency reported, adding that the aircraft belonged to state oil giant Aramco.

The Saudi Press Agency, citing an official at the energy ministry, reported the helicopter crashed in Ras Tanura in the country's east.

"The accident claimed the lives of all 14 passengers, all Saudi citizens," the agency said, adding that an investigation was under way to determine the cause of the crash.

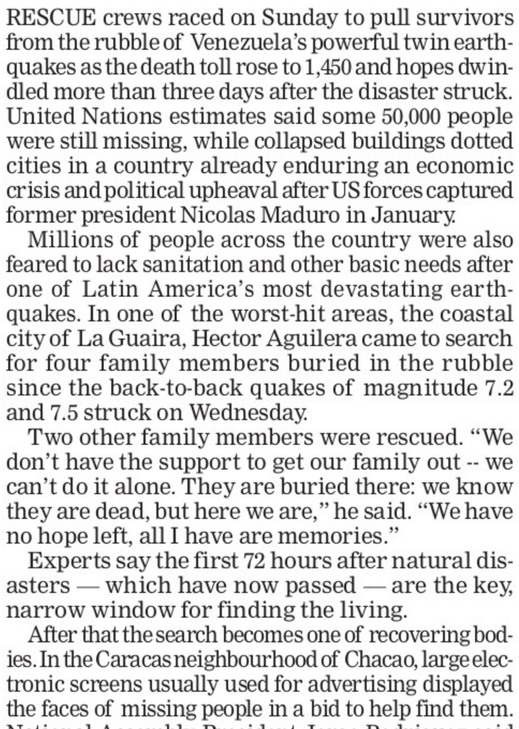
Aramco says it operates more than 60 aircraft, including helicopters serving more than 300 heliports in Saudi Arabia, making it one of the largest corporate fleets in the region.

The deadly accident comes as oil-rich Gulf nations seek to ramp up their output following Iranian attacks and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a vital waterway for the export of oil and gas. The Gulf monarchy did not indicate the incident was in any way connected to a hostile attack.

During the West Asia war, Iranian attacks had targeted energy facilities in the Gulf.

Ras Tanura is home to one of the largest refineries in the West Asia, with a capacity of 550,000 barrels per day, and is critical to Saudi Arabia's energy sector. The refinery has been targeted several times, notably during an Iranian drone attack at the beginning of the conflict, which caused a fire and forced a partial shutdown.

Riyadh said in April that the weeks-long attacks had disrupted several production operations at key facilities, with refineries in Ras Tanura as well as Jubail, Yanbu and Riyadh targeted. Saudi Arabia, the world's leading crude exporter, produces a little over 10 million bpd. *AFP*



Rescuers carry a person who was pulled alive from the rubble of a collapsed building in La Guaira state, Venezuela | AFP

Venezuela quake rescue effort turns into recovery mission

LA GUAIRA

RESCUE crews raced on Sunday to pull survivors from the rubble of Venezuela's powerful twin earthquakes as the death toll rose to 1,450 and hopes dwindled more than three days after the disaster struck. United Nations estimates said some 50,000 people were still missing, while collapsed buildings dotted cities in a country already enduring an economic crisis and political upheaval after US forces captured former president Nicolas Maduro in January.

Millions of people across the country were also feared to lack sanitation and other basic needs after one of Latin America's most devastating earthquakes. In one of the worst-hit areas, the coastal city of La Guaira, Hector Aguilera came to search for four family members buried in the rubble since the back-to-back quakes of magnitude 7.2 and 7.5 struck on Wednesday.

Two other family members were rescued. "We don't have the support to get our family out -- we can't do it alone. They are buried there: we know they are dead, but here we are," he said. "We have no hope left, all I have are memories."

Experts say the first 72 hours after natural disasters — which have now passed — are the key, narrow window for finding the living.

After that the search becomes one of recovering bodies. In the Caracas neighbourhood of Chacao, large electronic screens usually used for advertising displayed the faces of missing people in a bid to help find them. National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez said 1,450 people had died and 3,238 were injured. He also reported 774 buildings had collapsed, including 189 that were completely destroyed, as authorities continued to assess the scale of the disaster. Interim Venezuelan President Delcy Rodriguez said late Saturday rescuers had pulled 33 people from the ruins. International rescue teams with dogs scoured the rubble and US helicopters ferried in aid, but hope was running out for more people to be pulled out alive. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Ukraine drones hit Russian refinery

KYIV: Ukraine intensified its drone campaign against Russia on Sunday, setting a major oil refinery ablaze in the southern Krasnodar region and killing at least two people, Russian authorities said. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said two refineries were hit, while President Vladimir Putin acknowledged Russia was going through a "difficult period" as fuel shortages deepened amid sustained Ukrainian strikes targeting energy infrastructure.

LOST

It is to inform public that, we Manjunatha A, aged about 51 years and Ravi Kumar A, aged about 46 years, Sons of Late A N Annaiah residing at #170, 2nd Cross, 4th Main Road, Near Govt School, Kumaraswamy Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560078, declare that, original BDA Allotment letter bearing House No. 170:84-85, Dated 29-03-1985 stands in the name of our father Late A N Annaiah, has been lost while in transit in Kumaraswamy Layout area, regarding this police online complaint No.2260646/2026, dated:18-06-2026 has been lodged. If anybody find said document please inform to the nearby police station or contact the below mobile numbers

Manjunatha A 9916182265
Ravi Kumar A 9902951508

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -I AT BANGALORE

BSNL Building 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore.

O. A. No.1529 OF 2024

Between: Canara Bank, Ganganagar Branch, Bangalore - 560 032
...Applicant

And

M/s. Sky Dimond Foods LLP, Represented by its Partners & Others .
...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

To:

Def:1. M/s. Sky Diamond Foods LLP, No. 27/1, Ground Floor, 10th Cross, Kanakanagar, R. T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032, Represented by its Partners Mr. Syed Audil, Mr Syed Kashif, Mrs. Salma Sulthana and Mr. Syed Atif Ghouse.

Def:2. Mr. Syed Audil S/o. Syed Ghouse, aged about 64 yeras,

Def:3. Mr. Syed Kashif S/o. Syed Audil, aged about 41 yeras,

Def:4. Mr. Syed Atif Ghouse S/o. Syed Audil, aged about 21 yeras,

Def:5. Mrs. Salma Sultana W/o. Syed Audil, aged about 54 yeras,

Defendant No. 2 to 5 are R/a No. 28, 2nd Cross, Kousher Nagar , R. T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032.

Whereas, the above named Applicant has instituted the Application U/s 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against the Defendant No. 1 to 5 for recovery of a sum of **Rs.33,50,500/-**along with interest at 13.30 % p.a. compounded monthly on the Term Loan and at 13.05% p.a. compounded monthly on the Vehicle Loan from date of application till date of recovery. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before **07.08.2026 at 10.30 A.M.** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that, in case of default the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **15.05.2026 at Bangalore.**

Sd/-Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -I, Bangalore- 560 001

Advocate for Applicant: Rohit R Achar

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

BSNL House, BSNL Building, 4th Floor Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore - 560 001

O.A. No.33/2022

BETWEEN : M/s. CANARA BANK, Having its Branch Office at No. 186, Kannamangala, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District - 562 110, Represented by its Branch Manager Mrs. Shruthi K. M. ...Applicant

AND

1. M/s. Kateeleshwari Enterprises, Hennur Village, Bangalore - 560 043. Represented by its Proprietor Mr. K. Sudhakar Shetty

Also Available at :

1.Mr. K. Sudhakar Shetty, S/o. K. Janardhana Shetty, Proprietor of M/s. Kateeleshwari Enterprises, 009, Garuda Palace, Thirumanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North, Karnataka - 563 136.

Also Available at :

1.Mr. K. Sudhakar Shetty, S/o. K. Janardhana Shetty, Proprietor of M/s. Kateeleshwari Enterprises, No. 53, Doddappanahalli, Kannamangala Post, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru - Rural District - 562 110 ....Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of Recovery Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you the above the defendants for recovery of **Rs.28,08,891/-** (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety One Only) together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendant is required to appear therefore hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publiction or on **06.08.2026 at 10.30 a.m.** and as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of non appearance the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **16.06.2026**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

BSNL House, BSNL Building, 4th Floor Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore - 560 001

O.A. No.201/2022

BETWEEN : M/s. CANARA BANK, Having its Branch Office at No. 186, Kannamangala, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District - 562 110, Represented by its Branch Manager Mrs. Shruthi K. M. ...Applicant

AND

1. Mr. K. Sudhakar Shetty S/o. Mr. K. Janardhana Shetty, Aged about 48 years, No. 53, Doddappanahalli, Kannamangala Post, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru - Rural District - 560 040.

And Also Available at : # Kenjila House Ira Post & Village, Bantwal Taluk, Dakshina Kannada - 574 301.

2. Mrs. Latha Shetty W/o. Mr. Sudhakar Shetty, Aged about 45 years,No. 53, Doddappanahalli, Kannamangala Post, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru - Rural District - 560 040.

And Also Available at : # Kenjila House Ira Post & Village, Bantwal Taluk, Dakshina Kannada - 574 301.

....Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of Recovery Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you the above the defendants for recovery of **Rs.42,39,927.50/-** (Rupees Forty Two Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Seven and Paise Fifty Only) together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendant is required to appear therefore hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publiction or on **10.08.2026 at 10.30 a.m.** and as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of non appearance the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **16.06.2026**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE FAMILY COURT, AT DAVANAGERE G & WC. 09/2026

Petitioner:-
Saraswathi.S, W/o Late Vengattaramana.M, Aged about 75 yrs. R/o #147, 6th Cross, 9th Main Road, NTI Layout, Bengaluru North-560097, Phone No.9739172295,

-VS-

Respondent:- Nil

PAPER PUBLICATION

The petitioner filed the above case seeking an order for permitting the petitioner to be legal guardian of her minor grand son name **M.Sai. Shankar S/o. Late N.Mani and Late V.Anuradha.** Hence, Take Notice that it is hereby calling upon any person having adverse/ rival claim shall appear in person or through an advocate and say regarding the claim **on 23.07.2026** before this Hon'ble court at **11:00 AM,** failing which the case will be heard and determined in accordance with law,

Given under my hand and seal of the court this the **22nd day of June 2026.**

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer
Family Court, Davanagere
Advocate for Petitioner,
Miss Shylaja.S.H.
Advocate,
Bengaluru

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -I, BENGALURU

No. 1, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore - 560 001

O.A. No.109/2025

Between: Canara Bank
...Applicant

And

M/s. Entlogics Technologies Pvt Ltd., and Others ....Defendant/s

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE D.R.T. (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

To

1. M/s. Entlogics Technologies Pvt Ltd., Registered Office at No. 22, 1st Floor, 3rd 'A' Cross Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 024 by its Managing Director, Sri Avadhanam Hari Krishna

2. Sri Avadhanam Hari Krishna, S/o. Sri Vidyaranya, No. 31/2, Between 10th and 11th Cross, 6th Main, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003

3. Smt. Anuradha Madgula, W/o. Sri Avadhanam Hari Krishna, No. 31/2, Between 10th and 11th Cross, 6th Main, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003

WHEREAS, the above named Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against you for recovery of a sum mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

You are hereby directed appear before this Tribunal in person or through an advocate or an authorised agent duly instructed to show cause within 30 days from the date of this publication or **on 09.10.2026 at 10.30 a.m.**, as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this **17.06.2026.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -1 ,Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **Smt.Faheema Begum @ Faheema Tahir W/o. Tahir Ashrafi** is willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Clients **Mrs. Bhavani Yellappa Palyagar and Mr. Shantha Kumar Pushparajan** free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned their Counsel Mr. Prasad.N, Office at No.153/3, Adjacent to AET College, AET College Road, Doddakannelli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru-560035, within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Item No. I : All that piece and parcel of the immovable agricultural land bearing Sy.No.207/1, measuring to an extent of 0.24 (Twenty Four) Guntas, Situated at Thattekere Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District.
East By: Sarkari Oni, West By: Property in Sy.No.207/2, North By: Property in Sy.No.208 and South By: Property in Sy.No.206/1.

Item No. II : All that piece and parcel of the immovable agricultural land bearing Sy.No.207/2, measuring to an extent of 0.26 (Twenty Six) Guntas, Situated at Thattekere Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District.
East By: Property in Sy.No.207/1, West By: Property in Sy.No.207/3, North By: Property in Sy.No.208 and South By: Property in Sy.No.206/2.

Item No. III : All that piece and parcel of the immovable agricultural land bearing Sy.No.207/3, measuring to an extent of 0.27 (Twenty Four) Guntas, Situated at Thattekere Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District.
East By: Property in Sy.No.207/2, West By: Property belonging to Betta Nayaka, North By: Property in Sy.No.208 and South By: Property in Sy.No.206/3.

Item No.IV : All that piece and parcel of the immovable agricultural land bearing Sy.No.208, measuring to an extent of 2.00 (Two) Acres, Situated at Thattekere Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District.
East By: Nakasha Dari, West By: Sarkari Gomala, North By: Property in Sy.No.148 and South By: Property in Sy.No.207/1, 2 and 3.

Contact : **Mr. Prasad.N,** BAL LL.B,
e-mail id: prasadadvocate1@gmail.com
Contact No: +91 9886427886

Government of Tamil Nadu
ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED – ANGADI
ELCOT Angadi

9th Floor, Sigapi Aachi Building, 18/3, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai-600 008
https://elcotangadi.tn.gov.in |+91 44 2855 1234|
tenders@elcotangadi.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No. E-ANGADI-RC-IT02-2026-0011

ELCOT Angadi invites "Rate Contract Tender for empanelment of vendors for supply, installation and commissioning of Printers, Scanners and accessories (3rd call), through ELCOT Angadi e-Commerce portal". For complete details, please visit www.tntenders.gov.in. Pre-bid meeting: **07.07.2026, 11:00 AM** at ELCOT Nandanam Office. Last date for submission of e-bids: **16.07.2026, 03:00 PM**. For queries: tenders@elcotangadi.in.

SD/-
General Manager (Procurement)

DIPR/2157/TENDER/2026

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

(At/Po- Ambapua, Near Income Tax office, Berhampur-760011, Ganjam, Odisha)
(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com, Tel No.:- 0680-2404287)

NOTICE

FOR PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH "e"-Procurement
Bid identification No. Online Tender/09-2026-27/PMGSY/BPR

25001/550/2627: The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Berhampur on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Roads & Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana **[PMGSY-IV (B-i)]** in the districts of **Kandhamal for 112 (One Hundred Twelve)** number of packages with estimated cost totalling to **Rs 212.67 Cr (Approximate)** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with **State PWD / CPWD / MES / Railways**. The registered bidder of outside Odisha, can also participate in this process, but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. preferably within a month of the deadline for bid submission, but prior to signing of the contract

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement. Dtd. **30.06.2026**

Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 14.07.2026 upto 5.30 P.M

(i) EMD / Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.

(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per mentioned DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.

For further details and corrigendum (if any) please log on to **www.pmgsytenders.gov.in**.

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer
R.W. Circle, Berhampur

OIPR- 25001/25071/1/26-27/0016

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Can Fin Homes Ltd
K R Puram Branch
No. 414, Pooja Complex,Old Madras Road, K R Puram, Bangalore – 560039,
Tel No. 080-25619333/ 7625079185,
Email Id: krpuram@canfinhomes.com
CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

[provison to rule 9(1)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provison to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

NOTICE is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., K R Puram Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **16-07-2026,** for recovery of **Rs. 58,96,692/-** (Rupees Fifty Eight Lakhs Ninety Six Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Two Only)due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. from **Mr. Kumar H S and Mrs. Kalavathi C S** (Borrowers), as on 27-06-2026, together with further interest and other charges thereon.

The reserve price will be **Rs.30,60,000/-**(Rupees Thirty Lakhs Sixty Thousand Only) and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.3,06,000/-** (Rupees Three lakhs Six Thousand Only)

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Immovable Property bearing

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No. 199, Old Khata No. 59/199, PID No. 150300400300921599, Hoskote Planning Authority Vide Order No. HPA/LAO/35/2014-15, Dated 07.09.2015 Called As Vrunda City Layout, Situated at Bagalur Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District - 562149, Measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South: 30 Feet totally Measuring 1200 Sq Ft and bounded on The: East : Site No 198, West : Site No 184,North : 30 Feet Road, South : Site No 200

Encumbrances : Nil

The detailed terms and conditions of the sale are provided in the official website of Can Fin Homes Ltd., (https://www.canfinhomes.com/SearchAuction.aspx). Link for participating in e-auction : www.bankeauctionwizard.com

Date: 27.06.2026
Place : K. R. Puram

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Can Fin Homes Ltd.

$2.2 bn Foreign portfolio Investors (FPI) invested into government securities under the fully accessible route in June, a substantial rise compared to $0.46 billion in May

Global turmoil: Should you invest in bullion?

Analysts advise investors against exiting precious metals as they still remain best hedge against falling equities

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

WITH the crude oil prices easing the war-driven rally following the reopening of Hormuz and the resultant ebbing of inflation and rate hike worries, precious metals are set for a rally.

While gold is set for the steepest fall in a decade in the June quarter—from a record high of $5,600/ounce (28.35 grams) on January 29, 2026 to a low of $4,103 on June 27, losing 27%, its safe-haven pair silver has plunged much more—from $127/oz to $59.16 or losing 53.5% and making it the worst fall in four years. The reversal comes after a dream-run of the past two years: gold surged over 65% in 2025 and 28% in 2024, while silver climbed 28%, following a 148% surge in 2025 and 22% in 2024.

But both metals are set to close Q1 in negative territory, breaking a five-quarter streak of gains, with gold set for its steepest quarterly fall in a decade and silver heading for its worst showing in four years. The yellow metal has lost over 12% so far in the June quarter--steepest decline since December 2016, and silver is down close to 18%, its sharpest fall since June 2022.

Why did these safe-haven assets missed the rally despite a crippling war in the Middle East? The massive correction still underway is also surprising as both these metals are known as a hedge against bleeding equities or rising inflation—both these events occurred since March—but pulled down these metals.

It is primarily because the dollar continued to gain despite the war. In fact, according to many analysts, this was the

most surprising factor in the Iran war. Fact is that despite the US making many self-goals on Iran war, the dollar index continued to rally almost every day and last week even crossed the 102-mark, hitting a 13-month peak after falling to a low of 95.55, as the a global technology stock sell-off led to a mounting safe-haven demand for the greenback, increasing expectation of Fed rate hikes. Global analysts are now seeing only a 60% chance of a US rate hike in September, down from 64% earlier.

But analysts still advice investors against exiting the precious metals as they still remain the best hedge against falling equities, which since the Iran war have become captives of issues like lack of AI play or its overdose, inflation and the resultant interest rate hike fears. Because these metals still remain reliable investment options for portfolio diversification, wealth preservation, and hedging against inflation and currency depreciation, which makes it the best pull-factor. But they also add that since these metals are non-income-generating assets, they shouldn't be one's only investments and that a balanced approach is ideal.

While gold acts primarily as the best tool for long-term wealth preservation and safeguard against economic uncertainty or currency depreciation and thus tends to hold its value well during crises, silver has its advantage in its dual demand as both as a precious metal and as an industrial commodity with huge demand coming in from solar energy, electric vehicles, and electronics, retaining its potential to outperform gold during bull markets. Coupled with this is the steady pick-up in Chinese demand, along with the nearly contained inflation with a normalising oil supply and the resultant ebbing of rate hike fears.

IN CONVERSATION

R MUKUNDAN

MD & CEO of Tata Chemicals and the President of CII

'India needs to push four key reforms for double-digit growth'

FOR India to grow in double-digit figures, there is a need for 4 broader reforms, tells **R Mukundan**, MD & CEO of Tata Chemicals and the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the 2026-27 term. Mukundan, in an interaction with TNIE's **Arshad Khan**, has suggested Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes for new and emerging businesses, and access to foreign capital and technologies, so Indian firms can compete against global brands. In an interview with TNIE as CII President, Mukundan pitched the idea of building Brand India, the West Asia crisis and India Inc's stand on AI and semiconductor businesses. **Edited Excerpts**:

From tariff to geopolitical tension, there is so much uncertainty across the globe. Can India and India Inc thrive in such a volatile environment?

I think if you look at the current context, there are broadly 2 themes which will run for long term and one theme, which is going to be the episode. The thing which is gonna run for the long term is what our external affairs minister calls: Unipolar to Multipolar. The impact of that will be felt over a long period of time and will keep changing. The second theme is two forces on us — digital AI, and sustainability and climate. The third, which I call an episode, is the geopolitical tension. Today, 5 wars are fought across the world, and we get news of only one. These wars affect the supply chain and disrupt trade activity. I think countries will do a lot now, especially in terms of building alternate routes and diversifying supply.

If you go by the past track record of over 25 years, only 3 economies, above $150 billion in size, have grown greater than 6% consistently, except for one or two COVID years. These economies are India, China and Vietnam. If you take a figure of more than half a trillion, only India and China have managed to grow in this range. We can thrive, but our aim should be to thrive the most. We have to push our GDP growth into double digits, and for that we need reforms.

We would not go into quarter-by-quarter details. Overall, demand has held up. There was a concern that if the situation dragged on, demand could weaken, but that hasn't happened. However, cost pressures remain. Companies are absorbing some of these costs

What sort of reforms are you suggesting or seeking from the government?

There are 4 kinds of reforms we are talking about. One is foundation reform, the second is factor reform, the third is future-ready reform, and the fourth is fiscal and monetary reform. These reforms include improving the ease of doing business ecosystem, focusing on agriculture and MSMEs, giving a boost to exploration and mining, labour reforms, and establishing GST-like Councils for critical reform areas like agriculture, power, land, education and health, investing in AI and emerging technology and a wide range of taxation reforms to boost FDI and bring meaningful changes in the PLI scheme.

How long do you think India Inc will take to recover from the West Asia crisis?

I won't go into quarter-by-quarter details. Overall, demand has largely held up. There was a concern that if the situation dragged on, demand could weaken, but that hasn't happened. However, cost pressures remain. Companies are absorbing some of these costs, which is having an impact. As the situation eases, I expect those cost pressures to gradually diminish.

India has signed multiple FTAs in recent times. What opportunities do you see here for the corporate sector?

What happened now is that we work closely with finance, external affairs, and the commerce ministry when it comes to FTAs. When the tariff issue was going on, we had to find alternate markets, and Indian industries did find them in a short time. This clearly tells you the opportunity. What we have to focus on now is building Brand India. We need to attract foreign investment, foreign capital and foreign technology.

MONEY-WISE

ADDING MID-CAP MAGIC TO PORTFOLIO

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR

An experienced investor and can be contacted at ceolotus@hotmail.com

POST SEBI's rationalisation and re-categorisation of funds some years ago, Mid-Cap Funds, as its title suggests are a category of equity funds that invest predominantly in mid-sized companies. It needs to invest at least 65% of its corpus in Mid-Cap stocks. Investors back mid-cap funds in belief that the fund managers will identify and invest in Mid-Cap companies which have potential to grow into large cap companies.

As mentioned at the outset, this category was introduced as part of a re-categorisation of Equity Funds by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in October,2017. SEBI defines a Mid-Cap company as those listed companies that are ranked from 101st to 250th at Indian stock exchanges in the terms of market capitalisation. Market capitalisation is calculated by multiplying the number of a company's shares outstanding by its stock price per share.

This was a good move by SEBI as prior to the categorisation, most funds used labels loosely and notwithstanding what the label suggested, investments were made across large, Mid and Small Caps fungibly. Stock selection then seemed driven by a competitor's returns and dividend payouts, which came at a cost to serious long term investors.

Historically, Mid-Cap funds have proved to be relatively more volatile than Large-Cap funds but provided relatively more stability to the portfolio during volatile market conditions as compared to Small-Cap funds. Since its component, Mid-Cap companies are emerging companies of reasonable size, they don't carry the same quantum of risk as Small-Caps.

Since Mid-Cap funds qualify as equity assets, any sale made within a year from the date of purchase is liable for short-term capital gains (STCG) and attracts 20% tax. For any sale made after the investment has completed a year, long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax is applicable at 12.5% on capital gains over ₹. 1.25 Lakh.

Those investing in Mid-Cap funds must do so knowing that the underlying asset is equity with all its attendant risks. Yet, investing in Mid-cap funds is often used as a dynamic investment strategy as the payoff can be substantial. Consequently, these funds might have a higher turnover ratio and costs.

Nonetheless, the point remains that no equity investment is ever risk-free. Also, since risk & returns are directly related, the returns here could be higher than that in a large-cap fund, when the market starts ascending sharply. The default benchmark used by Mid Cap Funds is the Nifty Midcap 150 Index, which is designed to track the performance of next150 companies ranking from 101 - 250 based on full market capitalisation from Nifty 500.

Clearly then, there will be space to include mid-cap funds in the portfolio of investors willing to take the attendant risks. However, since both, the risks and rewards can be high, it would make good sense for investors to seek professional advise while making such investments.

MONEY MATTERS

MAKING SENSE OF CLOUDS IN FINANCIAL WORLD

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

IT is gloomy for sure lately. Clouds are gathering on the horizon, but the monsoon season is crawling forward. There are fears of rising prices, volatility and flattened yields.

"Climate risk at this point is no longer a distant issue; it is intersecting with geopolitics and inflation in real time," said an analysis in the latest NSE monthly PULSE bulletin. Headline inflation stood at 3.9% in May 2026, but the food and beverages basket firmed up much faster, at 4.5%. The latest RBI analysis projects consumer price inflation of over 5.1% for 2026-27. At the same time, the forecast for the South-West monsoon has been revised down to 90% of the long-period average, with a 60% probability of a rainfall deficit. When erratic weather acts as a supply-side shock to agriculture, everyday consumption costs typically face prolonged upward pressure.

The other factor influencing your money is the volatility of financial markets. Foreign portfolio investors continue to pull money out of India, driven by global uncertainties and a weak rupee. They are rallying behind businesses influencing the AI-driven technology ecosystem. Profit growth in the US is so strong that US-based investors need not look elsewhere. Strong demand and investment by major corporations are keeping US interest rates high. The tepid profit growth in India gives no reason for large US-based institutional investors to invest abroad.

Kotak Securities, which caters to institutional investors, notes that for global capital allocators focused on pure value, indices like China's Shanghai Composite or Brazil's Bovespa (IBOV) offer significantly cheaper absolute entry points, trading at price-to-book (P/B) ratios that are nearly half India's 2.9X premium. That means FPIs are in no hurry to return to India.

What does it mean to you?

All indicators point to little or no change in interest rates and upward-moving consumer price inflation. That means you cannot just keep your money in bank deposits alone and focus only on savings. You will have to create an appropriate asset allocation plan to ensure that future high prices of goods and services do not pinch your household spending.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

While systematic investment plans continue to see inflows from households, the ratio of discontinued SIPs to newly registered SIPs moderated to 96.3% in May 2026, down from 100% in March and April. When share prices fall, you tend to accumulate more units through the rupee-cost average method. It makes sense not to discontinue the automated investment plans. That assumes these are equity-linked plans for your long-term goals, such as retirement and your child's professional education.

There is significant interest in fixed-income instruments. You want to look for a guaranteed return from a reputable institution that is higher than your regular recurring deposit or bank fixed deposit. The benchmark for returns is the yield on Indian 10-year government bonds. It rose above 7% amid rising uncertainty in West Asia. However, with signs of peace and normalcy in global financial markets, it is now below 7%. The RBI held interest rates but made no 'hawkish' comments when it announced the credit policy earlier this month. That indicates interest rates are probably near their peak. The impact is that you need to find the best fixed-return deposit with a reputable company or institution and lock in the interest rate for the short term.

Gold, your other favourite asset that continues to command a safe-haven status, is increasingly straining India's external account. If you hold it in physical form for long, you also face storage safety risks, insurance expenses, making charges and resale penalties. You may want to hold it in digital form based on your asset allocation plan. It is a good idea to keep gold as a small portion of your diversified assets.

'Credit growth to remain resilient'

PUSHPITA DEY @ New Delhi

WITH the rising average loan ticket sizes helping sustain overall credit growth, domestic credit market continues to remain resilient despite geopolitical tensions in West Asia, according to credit bureau CRIF India chairman and regional managing director, India and South Asia, Sachin Seth.

However, the pace of fresh loan disbursement fell in segments like MSMEs and microfinance, He emphasised that India is unlikely to face any impact on credit cycle as a trickle down impact of the West Asia crisis, even in the coming quarters.

"There are no major signs of rising defaults or delinquencies in the retail or MSME sectors due to the West Asia crisis. Though lenders are monitoring vulnerable sectors like export-oriented units, food chains, logistics, etc with high dependence on key supply chain inputs and export dependency," said Sachin Seth, chairman and regional managing director, India and South Asia, CRIF India.

India's credit growth remains strong, driven by steadily increasing loan ticket sizes despite a moderation in the number of originations across MSME and microfinance segments

Sachin Seth, chairman and regional MD , India and South Asia, CRIF India

"India's credit growth remains strong, driven by steadily increasing loan ticket sizes despite a moderation in the number of originations across MSME and microfinance segments. Lenders are monitoring vulnerable sectors like export-oriented units, food chains and logistics with high dependence on key supply chain inputs and exports. However, better data insights, potential geopolitical resolutions and government support, including proposed ECLGS 5.0 scheme, are likely to shield credit growth cycle from any major impact," Seth said.

CRIF India's latest report shows while MSME credit portfolio has remained resilient, the growth has moderated slightly amid global uncertainties. The MSME portfolio outstanding rose 12.8% YoY to about ₹46 lakh crore in April 2026, with improved asset quality. However, growth slowed sharply to 3.1% between December 2025 and April 2026 from 9.7% a year ago, while active loans fell 3.5%. However, it cautioned about the emerging stress in micro-enterprise segment, where early-stage delinquencies remain elevated, and in manufacturing subsectors like food processing, auto ancillaries, and shipping and transport.

Judge's query may not derail DoJ bid to drop charges against Adanis: US lawyer

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA @ New York

A US federal judge's decision to seek a fuller explanation from prosecutors before approving the dismissal of criminal charges against Indian billionaire Gautam Adani is a procedural requirement and doesn't signal that the case is likely to proceed, as per a senior US lawyer familiar with practice.

"The judge's order is procedural," lawyer Chris Man said. Under Rule 48(a), the Department of Justice must obtain leave of court to dismiss an indictment, and judges can ask questions or seek additional briefing before ruling. "That, by itself, is not unusual," he said.

The lawyer added that there is little precedent for a federal court compelling prosecutors to continue pursuing a criminal

case once the Justice Department has decided. Judges "have little discretion," he said. "There is no precedent for a judge forcing the Department of Justice to prosecute a case that the executive branch has determined should be abandoned," he said.

The conduct of criminal prosecutions is constitutionally an executive function, and courts have historically accorded substantial deference to prosecutorial charging and dismissal decisions. The comments came after the judge overseeing the Adani case directed the Justice Department to provide a more detailed explanation for its request to dismiss the indictment.

Brooklyn-based US District Judge Nicholas Garaufis had stated federal prosecutors' May 18 announcement that they would no longer pursue the case, which charged Adani with securities fraud and wire fraud stemming from an alleged bribery scheme, didn't sufficiently explain their decision. Man said the judge's request should not be interpreted as a signal that dismissal is in jeopardy. In Adani case, the DoJ had submitted an argument seeking dismissal of the indictment against Adani and others, he said.

THRILLER IN KANSAS

Austria & Algeria liven up stage with 3-3 draw; Both advance at the expense of Iran

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN

WHEN injury time began in Kansas on a fever-dream kind of Saturday night, both teams were fairly content to knock it about. The match itself had been thrilling for the first hour before both Austria and Algeria seemingly decided to lessen the intensity and not risk. The result — a draw — suited them both.

In Tijuana, Mexico, the 26 Iranian players and support staff, would have doubtlessly huddled next to a TV set, wanting a win for either team. The equation for Iran to get through was simple. There had to be a winner.

For a period of time, it seemed like Austria would win. Twice, they took the lead. Twice, Algeria had come from behind.

Before this Group J tie began, the mind went back to 'The Disgrace of Gijon', a league stage encounter at the 1982 World Cup. West Germany and Austria played safe in the knowledge that a 1-0 to the former would send both of them through at Algeria's expense. Even 42 years later, allegations of collusion refuse to die away (it's why the final matches within all groups start at the same time).

In the days leading up to the fixture in Kansas, a few fans had already started expecting the worst. "Disgrace of Kansas," a few started calling it. And for the vast majority of the last 30 minutes, it seemed like there was some unwritten gentlemen's agreement in play. You don't try to score. We will not try to score. Some sections in the crowd had started booing.

Then, three minutes into injury time, Riyad Mahrez scored. There was pandemonium among the Algerians in the crowd. There was shock when the camera showed the Austrian fans. Wait? What happened? Even the commentators on air were struggling to come to grips with what they had just seen.

Two minutes after the goal, the Austrians turned to Sasa Kalajdzic, the 28-year-old striker on loan at LASK. A centre-forward, Kalajdzic stands at over 6'6". His introduction signalled only one thing. The Europeans were going to get it into the mixer in the hope of mustering a positive response with a minute or so remaining. A cross from the left wing sailed over the six-yard box, evaded the defender but Michael Gregoritsch had gambled and he was waiting at the back post. His cushioned header was pin-point and the onrushing Kalajdzic headed it home to spark scenes of delirium wherever you looked.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Sasa Kalajdzic's equaliser for Austria in the dying seconds of the tie led to frenzy at the Kansas City Stadium on Saturday | AP

BRAZIL: Alisson (1); Danilo (13), Marquinhos (4), Gabriel (3), D Santos (16); Guimaraes (8), Casemiro (5), Paqueta (20); Rayan (26), Cunha (9), Vinicius (7).

JAPAN: Suzuki (1); Watanabe (16), Itakura (4), H Ito (21); Y Sugawara (2), Kamada (15), Ka Sano (24), K Nakamura (13); R Doan (10), A Ueda (18), J Ito (14).

STERN TEST FOR SELECAO

Brazil will face Japan in the second of the Round of 32 games. A look...

VINICIUS THE KEY

While Brazil have quietly ticked along, Vinicius has caught the eye with his dribbling & finishing skills. He will hold the key if Selecao are to advance.

UEDA VS GABRIEL, MARQUINHOS

Ayase Ueda's clever movement and prowess in front of goal has given Japan a couple of goals. The question is can the leading Eredivisie scorer get change out of Gabriel Magalhaes & Marquinhos?

Today's match

Brazil vs Japan @ Houston Stadium, Houston | 10.30 PM

OTHER MATCH

DUTCH FACE MOROCCO

Netherlands face a tricky test against Morocco in the Mexican city of Monterrey.

Netherlands vs Morocco @ Estadio Monterrey, Mexico | 6.30 AM*

*IST Tuesday

Live on United8 Sports & ZEE5

A win to remember for African nation

JAMES ROBSON @ Atlanta

FOR 52 years, DR Congo's standout World Cup memory was a humiliating 9-0 rout at the hands of Yugoslavia in their only other appearance on football's biggest stage.

Not anymore. Not after a new generation of players made history by advancing to the knockout stage of the World Cup for the first time and set up a clash with England. "The weight on our shoulders was hard to bear," said striker Yoane Wissa, whose two goals helped Congo rally to a 3-1 win against Uzbekistan on Saturday night

Fiston Mayele was also on target in a dramatic second-half comeback as Congo joined Cape Verde as another unexpected qualifier for the round of 32. "We told ourselves we can't give up," Mayele said.

Congo have been one of the surprise stories of this World Cup, with few expecting it to emerge from a group that included Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal and Colombia. And history was hardly on its side. Congo's previous appearance was when they competed as Zaire in 1974 and lost all three games, including the rout by Yugoslavia. It's a completely different story now.

After holding Portugal to a 1-1 draw earlier in the tournament, Congo needed a win in their final Group K game to advance as one of the best third-place teams. They did just that with a breathless fight back after trailing to Eldor Shomurodov's lobbed goal in the 10th minute.

England test awaits

England defeated Panama 2-0 on Saturday to clinch top spot in their group and set up a last-32 clash with Congo. Jude Bellingham and Harry Kane scored the goals in a laboured victory for England at the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey.

Saturday's results: Group L: Croatia **2-1** Ghana; Panama **0-2** England. **Group K:** DR Congo **3-1** Uzbekistan; Colombia **0-0** Portugal. **Group J:** Jordan **1-3** Argentina; Algeria **3-3** Austria. *AP*

DR Congo players rejoice after their match against Uzbekistan | AP

Can Germany rise to occasion?

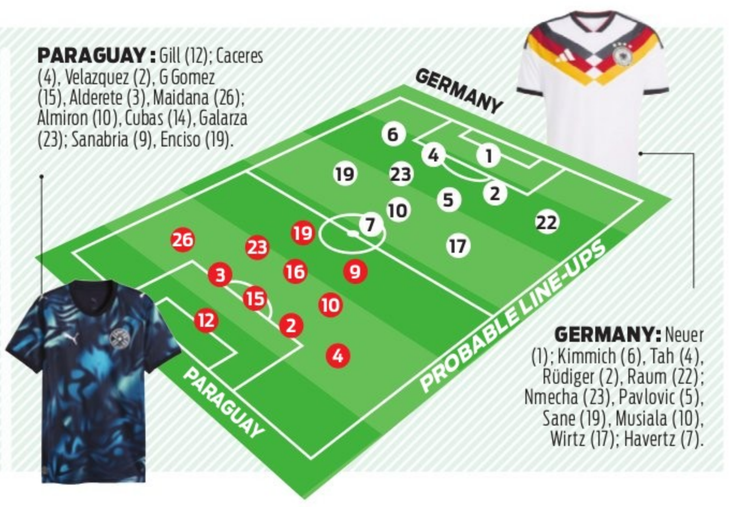
THE 2014 WINNERS HAVE BLOWN HOT AND COLD BUT CAN ILL-AFFORD A BAD DAY AGAINST PARAGUAY, WHO DON'T CONCEDE A LOT. A LOOK...

Florian Wirtz

DIE MANNSCHAFT ATTACK VS PARAGUAY DEFENCE

After conceding four to US, Paraguay have displayed their usual defensive discipline with two clean sheets. They will employ a very low block and put ten men behind the ball and ask Germany to break them down. Will the Europeans be able to manage it?

Live Action Germany vs Paraguay @ Boston Stadium, Foxborough | 2.30 AM* | *IST Tuesday **LIVE on Unite8 Sports and Zee5**



PARAGUAY: Gill (12); Caceres (4), Velazquez (2), G Gomez (15), Alderete (3), Maidana (26); Almiron (10), Cubas (14), Galarza (23); Sanabria (9), Enciso (19).

GERMANY: Neuer (1); Kimmich (6), Tah (4), Rüdiger (2), Raum (22); Nmecha (23), Pavlovic (5), Sane (19), Musiala (10), Wirtz (17); Havertz (7).

Unstoppable Messi adds to his legend

AFP @ Arlington

LIONEL Messi came off the bench to score his sixth goal of the tournament as Argentina warmed up for their World Cup knockout match with Cape Verde by beating Jordan 3-1 on Saturday. The ageless Messi tops the scoring charts in North America as the tournament heads into the last 32. With qualification already in the bag, Messi started on the bench but came on after an hour in Texas to huge cheers to get his side's third with a free-kick.

Argentina finished emphatically top of Group J with maximum points after also beating Algeria 3-0 and defeating Austria 2-0, all those goals coming from Messi. The holders and their 39-year-old talisman look formidable, albeit in one of the weaker groups. Coach Lionel Scaloni said Messi could have played the full game.

"But he chose to let his teammates have minutes, he chose to think about what's coming, and that speaks volume about him," he said.

Giovani Lo Celso, who scored Argentina's first of the evening, said it had been almost the perfect group stage.

Vlasic powers Croatia

PHILADELPHIA: Croatia beat Ghana 2-1 to claim second spot in Group L and secure their passage to the last 32. Petar Sucic opened the scoring in the first half before Ghana dominated the second period, eventually levelling courtesy of Derrick Luckassen. But the 2018 runners-up showed their grit to dig out a late winner from the head of Nikola Vlasic.

Ghana were already assured of progressing to the last 32 before the match kicked off thanks to their defeat of Panama and stalemate against England in their opening two ties.

Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring against Jordan on Saturday | AP

QUICK PASSES

Scotland coach Clarke resigns

LOS ANGELES: Scotland manager Steve Clarke stepped down following his side's elimination from the World Cup in the group stage, despite signing a four-year contract last month. The Scottish Football Association announced that "our most successful National Team Head Coach has called time on his seven years in charge".

S Korea's Prez demands probe

SEOUL: South Korea's President Lee Jae Myung has blamed their early World Cup exit on favouritism in appointments. He also criticised head coach Hong Myung-bo, while calling for a sports ministry-led investigation into the team's performance. "I am utterly baffled," he posted on X. "Once again, it has been proven that personnel decisions are everything."

Colombia, Portugal share spoils to advance

AGENCIES @ Miami

COLOMBIA finished top of Group K after playing out a highly-entertaining end-to-end 0-0 draw with Portugal on Saturday. Colombia will feel hard done by nevertheless as a marginal offside ruled out a late goal by Davinson Sanchez.

The Colombians will play Ghana in the last 32 next Friday, while runners-up Portugal will see Cristiano Ronaldo face his old Real Madrid teammate Croatian icon Luka Modric on Thursday. However, Ronaldo was a peripheral presence in the fast-paced match, outshone by another former Real teammate, 34-year-old James Rodriguez. The game watched by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and FIFA President Gianni Infantino was played to the backdrop of a cacophony of noise from Colombian fans.

Dejected Harmanpreet Kaur (C) shakes hands with Ash Gardner after loss | AFP

Kaur and Co knocked out of T20 WC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AND just like that another T20 World Cup campaign comes to a sour end. India women, the ODI world champions, fell short at the group stage for the second consecutive time at the shortest format as they lost to Australia at Lord's on Sunday.

Led by Harmanpreet Kaur's fifty, India set a target of 171. However, that was not enough with Ellyse Perry (56) and Ash Gardner (53 n.o) guiding the Australian team home, and South Africa, into the knockouts. For India, a campaign riddled with injuries, dropped catches and poor tactical calls came to an abrupt end. **Brief scores:** India 170/4 in 20 ovs (Kaur 58, Mandhana 38; Molineux 2/36) **lost to** Australia 172/4 in 19 ovs (Perry 56, Gardner 53 n.o).

Rohit clinches javelin gold, qualifies for Asian Games

TANMAY DAS @ Bhubaneswar

JAVELIN thrower Rohit Yadav created a meet record and bagged the gold with a throw of 87.05m at the 65th National Athletics Inter State Senior Athletics Championships here at the Kalinga Stadium on Sunday. With the throw, which was also his personal best, the Uttar Pradesh athlete breached the Asian Games qualification mark of 77.87m.

More importantly the throw, which came in his last attempt, also made Yadav the third best in the country behind former Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra and Kishore Jena. Chopra breached the 90m mark (90.23m) in the 2025 Doha Diamond League while Jena's effort of 87.54m came in the 2022 Asian Games, which was held a year later due to the covid pandemic. Yadav's effort is also the second best throw of the season internationally so far with Sri Lankan Rumesh Tharanga leading the chart with a throw of 92.62m. Speaking on his achievement, Yadav said, "Top two throwers will represent the country in the upcoming Asian Games. I have crossed Neeraj Chopra's record this year but he is altogether a different level of athlete. It's better not to make any comparison with him."

Top show by Sreeshankar

Long jumper Murali Sreeshankar won gold with a leap of 8.38m. He also breached the Asiad qualification mark of 7.91m with his effort on Sunday.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

MAJOR SERVICE

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS WIMBLEDON

WITH THE SEASON'S THIRD GRAND SLAM SET TO BEGIN FROM MONDAY, A LOOK AT SOME OF THE STORYLINES FROM THIS YEAR'S TOURNAMENT.

Sinner and his battle with heat

Jannik Sinner's kryptonite doesn't appear to be rivals. His rival, at this point in time, is the heat. In Paris, the conditions got the better of him. With western Europe reeling from a heatwave, how will he cope? If he does tick that off, he may find Carlos Alcaraz less taxing.

Serena in women's singles draw

Serena Williams last featured at a Slam in 2022. At Wimbledon, she has received a wild card. That's not all; the 44-year-old will be in the women's doubles draw and she will be teaming up with sister Venus.

Can Swiatek regain her mojo?

Iga Swiatek has had a subdued year by her lofty standards as she has already lost 10 times in 31 matches. But in 2025, the famed courts here was witness to her maiden BigW triumph. Will that memory spur her on?

Djokovic and the race for 25

No Carlos Alcaraz & extreme heat causing Sinner issues... On a surface he seems to thrive these days, this could be a big chance for Novak Djokovic, who's aiming to win his first Major since 2023.

Live on Star Sports/JioHotstar from 3.30PM

India men suffer historic series loss versus Ireland

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IT has been a rather dreamy 72 hours for Ireland cricket. First the men beat India for the first time in history on Friday. Then, the women followed it up with their first win at global events, beating West Indies. On Sunday, the men went one up further to topple the T20 World Cup winners and register a historic T20I series 2-0 win against India.

For the Men in Blue, there may be little context to the this two T20Is in the longer run, but this comes as a blot after coming on the high of a T20 World Cup win under a new captain and with a teen prodigy waiting to conquer the world. Shreyas Iyer had replaced World Cup-winning Suryakumar Yadav as captain and batter and entire cricketing community was waiting for Vaibhav Sooryavanshi to become the youngest Indian across genders to play international cricket.

Iyer has had a nightmarish start on surface that aided bowlers with larger boundaries. And as for Sooryavanshi, he continues to warm the bench while India handed debuts to Suryansh Shedge and Prince Yadav. And that did not go down well as India lost by just one run on Sunday — all thanks to Harshit Rana's late heroics (21 off 10) and Ireland's nerves — to lose the series. The magnitude of the loss lies in the fact that it is first T20I series loss in over three years and first under Gautam Gambhir as head coach.

Though they will move on quickly to the England series, where they are set to play five T20Is and three ODIs, this loss will remain a blot in the record of the coach and the team. **Brief scores:** Ireland 154/8 in 20 ovs (Tector 53, Prince 3/22) **bt** India 153/9 in 20 ovs (Tilak 55; Hollard 3/26).

India players during the second T20I against Ireland on Sunday | BCCI

EXPRESS READ

Srikanth enters US Open final

FULLERTON (USA): India shuttler Kidambi Srikanth edged out Japan's Yudai Okimoto in a three-game thriller to progress to the men's singles final of the US Open Super 300 badminton championships here. Srikanth, a 2021 World Championships silver medallist, recorded a 22-20, 15-21, 21-19 win.

Stokes to retire from int'l cricket

NOTTINGHAM: England captain Ben Stokes announced his shock retirement from international cricket on Sunday in the middle of a Test match. The 35-year-old all-rounder confirmed his exit shortly before Tea on the fourth day of the ongoing third and decisive Test against New Zealand in Nottingham.

Hyderabad crowned RPL champs

HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Heroes were crowned champions of the HSBC Rugby Premier League Season 2 after defeating Mumbai Dreamers by 41-17 in a thrilling final on Sunday. Bengaluru Bravehearts secured third place after defeating Chennai Bulls 22-19 in an entertaining play-off encounter.

UTTAR PRADESH
DRIVING INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Guided by the vision of **Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas**, Uttar Pradesh has built a development model that places people at its centre. From strengthening social protection and expanding livelihood opportunities to empowering farmers, workers and women, the state is ensuring that progress reaches every household and every community.

The transformation is visible in the scale of welfare coverage, the expansion of direct benefit transfers, targeted support for farmers and workers, and a renewed focus on social inclusion. By combining welfare delivery with livelihood creation and financial empowerment, Uttar Pradesh is laying the foundation for a more equitable and self-reliant society.

8.45 crore
e-Shram registrations

3.12 crore
PM-Kisan beneficiaries

1.86 crore
PM Ujjwala connections

1 crore+
pension beneficiaries Social Security

1 crore+
women linked to SHGs & livelihoods

13.57 lakh
families identified Under Mission Zero Poverty

SOCIAL SECURITY WITH DIGNITY

- More than one crore beneficiaries covered under old-age, destitute women and divyangjan pension schemes
- Pension assistance enhanced significantly over the years, with a further increase to ₹ 1,500 from April 2026
- Over 1.10 lakh families supported through the National Family Benefit Scheme
- More than 5.50 lakh couples benefited under the Mukhyamantri Samuhik Vivah Yojana
- End-to-end online processing and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) ensuring transparency and timely delivery

FARMERS AT THE CENTRE OF GROWTH

SUPPORTING THE ANNADATA

- ₹1.03 lakh crore+ transferred to more than 3.12 crore farmers under PM-Kisan
- Free electricity for irrigation benefiting over 16 lakh farmers
- 91,000+ solar pumps installed and extensive feeder solarisation underway
- Sugarcane area expanded from 20.54 lakh hectares in 2016-17 to 28.61 lakh hectares in 2025-26
- Productivity increased from 72 tonnes per hectare in 2016-17 to over 83 tonnes per hectare in 2024-25
- Ethanol production surged from 42 crore litres in 2016-17 to nearly 188 crore litres in 2025-26
- Sugarcane farmers received over ₹3.22 lakh crore in payments between 2017 and 2025

EMPOWERING WOMEN, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

- 27.37 lakh daughters benefited under Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangala Yojana
- More than 60 lakh mothers benefited under PM Matru Vandana Yojana
- Over one crore women connected through self-help groups and rural livelihood programmes
- 35 lakh women identified under Lakhpati Didi Yojana, with over 18.55 lakh already achieving the milestone
- More than 64 lakh women farmer families linked to livelihood enhancement activities
- 60,000 self-help group women engaged in public distribution services

LABOUR WELFARE AND LIVELIHOOD SECURITY

- 8.42 crore+ unorganised workers registered on the e-Shram Portal-highest in the country
- 7.04 lakh+ workers enrolled under the PM Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana
- 93 lakh+ beneficiaries covered under the Atal Pension Yojana
- 59,602 skilled workers registered on the Seva Mitra Portal
- Employment generation through Mission Rozgar, skill training, apprenticeship and self-employment programmes
- Atal Residential Schools operational across all 18 divisions for children from worker families
- Financial assistance of up to ₹5 lakh in case of accidental death, ₹2-4 lakh in case of disability and ₹25,000 funeral assistance

FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND BASIC SERVICES

- More than 10 crore bank accounts opened under PM Jan Dhan Yojana
- Free foodgrain support reaching crores of beneficiaries through the food security programme
- Uttar Pradesh declared 100% ODF Plus
- Over 3.31 crore household toilets and more than 59,000 community toilets constructed
- Direct Benefit Transfer mechanisms ensuring transparent and accountable delivery

DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER (DBT)

A Model of Transparency, Savings and Trust

- Elimination of intermediaries and leakages, with 1.08 crore ghost and duplicate beneficiaries removed
- 191 schemes across 31 departments linked to the DBT platform, including 105 Centrally Sponsored Schemes and 86 State-sponsored Schemes
- Total DBT transfers increased from ₹41,297.25 crore in 2019-20 to ₹56,160 crore in 2024-25
- Number of beneficiaries rose from 10.61 crore to 14.04 crore

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29.06.2026
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

First iPhone

Launched in January 2007, the first iPhone went on sale on this day, and it helped Apple grow into a $3 trillion company over the next 15 years

THE IDEA

Apple introduced iPhone, combining three products – a revolutionary mobile phone, a widescreen iPod with touch controls and a breakthrough Internet communications device

ORIGINAL APPS

The original iPhone had 15 apps: Calendar, Camera, Clock, Contacts, iPod, Google Maps, Messages, Notes, Phone, Photos, Safari, Stocks, Voice Memos, Weather and Settings

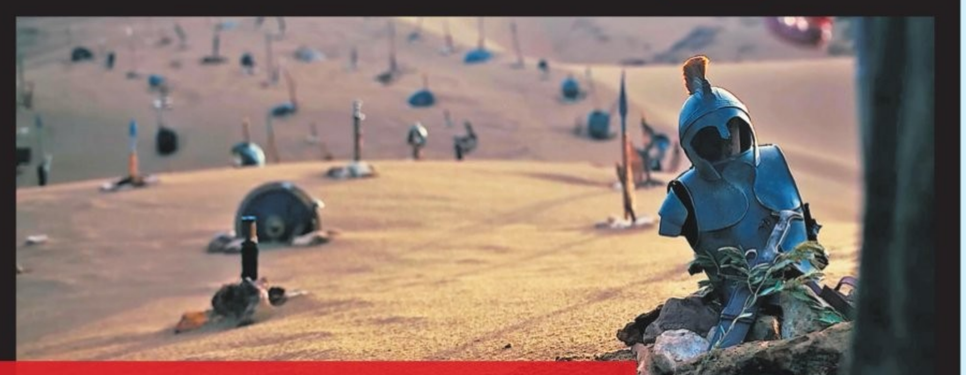
A REVOLUTION

iPhone introduced an entirely new user interface based on a large multi-touch display and new software, letting users control iPhone with just their fingers

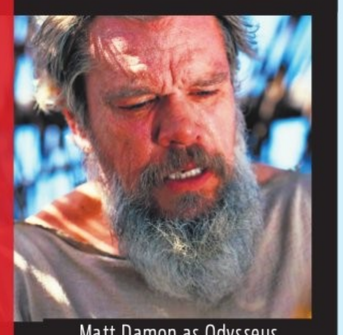
Here's what's happening in the city!

PG 2

Still from *The Odyssey*



VOYAGE FOR THE AGES



Matt Damon as Odysseus

Anne Hathaway as Penelope

With Christopher Nolan's *The Odyssey* set to release soon, fans and experts explain why its over 2,500-year-old story continues to be an enduring epic and what Nolan's signature style could bring to it

In the film, Odysseus must make a treacherous journey home, 10 years after the Trojan War

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

A barren land lined with war helmets, swords and armour marking the graves of thousands who have died, rolling waves that crash into a ship and take men as they leave, the tense quiet of hiding below deck from threats above and family waiting twenty years for Odysseus' return – in these glimpses from *The Odyssey*, one can almost taste the fear, the devastation and heartbreak of separation in war that the epic captures, in the scale that Christopher Nolan is known for.

One of the most highly anticipated films of the year, fans are excited to see what the iconic filmmaker brings to a story that the world has seen, told, retold and adapted countless times over the 2,500 to 2,800 years that it has existed. Ravi Chakraborty, a professor of creative writing and a Nolan fan, points out something he feels will make or break the film: whether Nolan can bring the psychological complexity of his previous films. "When you go to see his films, you don't just come out feeling happy for the good guy. You don't simply clap for Batman but feel overwhelmed by the experience of being in that world. *Oppenheimer* did this as well, showing that just because a film is meant for a worldwide audience, it doesn't need to be simple; it can be ambiguous and provocative, too," he says, adding, "This will be a cinematic challenge for him. I'm curious to see how he would take these larger-than-life characters and bring this immediacy to them while still making the film spectacular."

Odysseus, like Nolan's last protagonist, J Robert Oppenheimer, is a morally ambiguous character known more for his cunning than his moral uprightness. He is not a hero in the way we think of one, but as a character who has a hero's journey – facing monsters, gods and foes. Fans like Anto S Fernandes, an associate director, are hoping to see how Nolan translates this fantastical world with technical inventiveness. He shares, "The trailer seemed to have parts from the Trojan War, so I'm curious about how he will do the practical effects of it, along with the sea monsters and how he represents the gods – they will be major characters, but will he show them as grounded and believable or represent them as an ominous presence with lightning, thunder and other effects?"

With *The Odyssey*, originally starting 10 years after the Trojan War and told in the present and through flashbacks, fans speculate how this could mesh with Nolan's non-linear style, with Nikhil Mamnani, a project manager, noticing, "Unlike others who may tell the story as a chunk, taking a novelistic approach, Nolan likes to edit movies like montages, playing with the rhythm of the film. He goes for a more symphonic approach of highs and lows, going along with the instruments which jolt and bring flashes of moments – his editing wisdom is what I'm excited to see."

Back to Basics

In order to fully appreciate the Nolan film, fans like Mamnani and Fernandes have picked up copies of *The Odyssey* and *The Iliad* (whose events spanning the Trojan War precede Odysseus' perilous journey home to Ithaca). These two are considered foundational texts of Western literature, often compared to the *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*. But why? Assistant professor Elizabeth Thomas shares why Indian audiences might find a connection here, "They ask questions around dharma – what is the right action, how should a son, a wife or a king behave? These are also worlds populated with gods who are devious, cunning, jealous and desirous, just like humans."

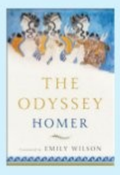
One thing our epics have in common is the fact that they were likely orally transmitted over centuries before being penned down, perhaps partially why these narratives continue to connect today. "Epics are fascinating examples of a kind of world that no longer exists. There is also no problem of veracity – you can tell it as you like in many ways, keeping the foundational structures. They are dynamic and reproducible, in songs, text, oral stories," she says, pointing to films like *O' Brother Where Art Thou* and *Troy*, and books like *The Song of Achilles* and *Percy Jackson* that have reimagined these characters in different ways.

Filmmaker Christopher Nolan

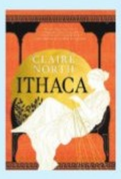
Check it Out!

Illiad and *The Odyssey* adaptations that inform, amuse and entertain

Books:



- ***The Odyssey* by Emily Wilson:** This translation is written with contemporary idioms, rejecting the ornate tone of older translations. An introduction with maps, a pronunciation glossary and extensive notes also give added context.



- ***Ithaca* by Claire North:** Told from Odysseus' wife, Penelope's perspective, it follows her as she awaits his return, fending off suitors who want her to pass on the throne. Through wit and her trusted circle of maids, she survives the haranguing and tries to maintain peace within the kingdom.

Movies:

- ***Troy* (2004):** Paris runs away with Melenaus' wife, Helen and all hell breaks loose. The Greeks and Trojans are fighting while the Gods take sides and enjoy the drama unfold.
- ***O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (2000):** Based loosely on *The Odyssey*, this comedy/parody film follows three prisoners who break out of jail and go in search of hidden treasure.

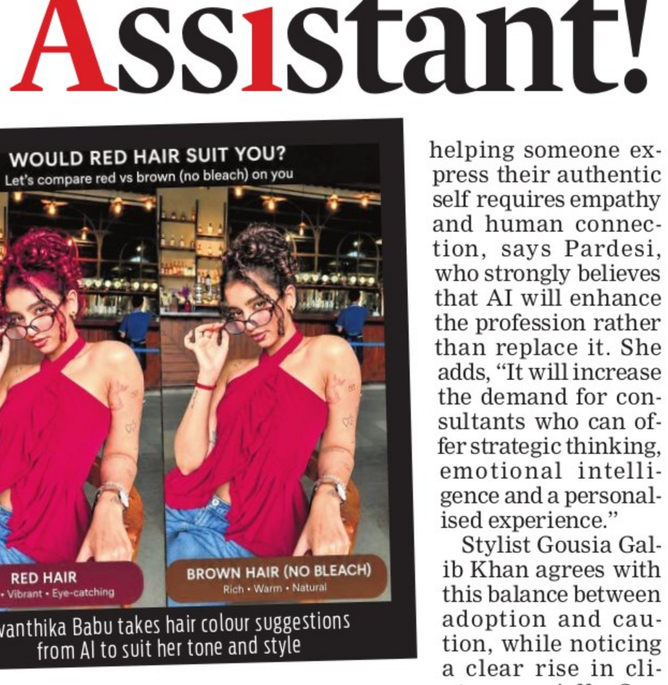
With just one click away, AI has become the new personal stylist for Bengalureans, helping them choose their best-fit haircuts, grooming routines and personal style

The Grooming Assistant!

ANJALI RAM

A mini life crisis or a sudden urge to transform into one's best version, and the salon chair is often where people end up next. But how many times have you walked in for a haircut and walked out with exactly what you imagined? For many, the gap between expectation and reality has always been part of the experience. Now, that gap is being narrowed at least visually by artificial intelligence. Before stepping into a salon or booking an image consultant, people are turning to AI to preview hairstyles, colours and experiment with versions of themselves. From generating haircut simulations and analysing skincare ingredients to recommending colours that complement skin tone, it is undoubtedly becoming part of modern grooming routine.

Professionals across the grooming and styling industry say the shift has become particularly noticeable over the past year. While clients once arrived with celebrity photos saved from Google, Instagram or Pinterest, many now walk in with AI-generated images tailored to their face and preferences. Danny, senior hairstylist at Rock Paper Scissors, notes this change is now visible across age groups, including senior clients and children. "It has helped us cut short our consultation and given clients the confidence to try different styles, colours and even beard shapes," he explains, noting that clients now arrive with clearer visual references.


THE LOOK
Color:
MOCHA BRUNETTE
A rich, neutral brown with subtle mocha dimension that warms your complexion and adds depth.
DIMENSION & MOVEMENT
COLOR PALETTE

Stylist Gousia Galib Khan incorporates AI into her own work for mood boards and creative exploration

WOULD RED HAIR SUIT YOU?
Let's compare red vs brown (no bleach) on you
RED HAIR
Bold • Vibrant • Eye-catching
BROWN HAIR (NO BLEACH)
Rich • Warm • Natural

Avanthika Babu takes hair colour suggestions from AI to suit her tone and style

For digital creator Avanthika Babu, AI has become more of a practical grooming assistant, be it her skincare or hair colour recommendations. She uses it not just for styling ideas but also for understanding what goes into the skincare products she uses. "I've even uploaded ingredient lists and asked AI for a breakdown before trying a product," she says on how AI helps her make more informed decisions rather than replacing her judgment, adding, "I'd use it as a guide, not the final decision-maker."

Danny agrees, as he highlights struggle with realism, when it comes to hair texture. He shares that many clients come to him wanting their hair to look exactly like the AI image, but he has to give them a reality check based on texture, lifestyle and maintenance. "Straight hair is almost a 10 out of 10 match. Wavy hair is around 70 to 80 per cent, but curly hair is closer to 40 to 50 per cent. That's where our experience comes into play," he says.

Despite limitations, stylists are also using AI themselves to support consultations, especially for colour exploration. Image consultant Sonia Pardesi sees AI as a strong entry point for clients exploring personal style. It helps quickly map out options and ideas, but she stresses that interpretation still requires human insight. "AI is excellent at generating ideas, visualising different looks and saving time. Those recommendations still need to be interpreted through the lens of personality, profession and comfort level," she shares.

For her, the emotional dimension of styling cannot be replicated. "Building confidence, reading emotions, understanding aspirations and helping someone express their authentic self requires empathy and human connection, says Pardesi, who strongly believes that AI will enhance the profession rather than replace it. She adds, "It will increase the demand for consultants who can offer strategic thinking, emotional intelligence and a personalised experience."

Stylist Gousia Galib Khan agrees with this balance between adoption and caution, while noticing a clear rise in clients, especially Gen Zs, arriving with AI-generated inspo. "More clients are using AI as their first point of reference before speaking to a stylist," she says. But she emphasises that styling remains deeply personal. "Fashion isn't just about what looks good – it's about what feels right for the individual. The final styling decisions are always based on my professional judgment, experience and the client's individuality." She also incorporates AI into her own workflow, using it for mood boards and creative exploration.

Users are still cautious about AI when giving and taking inputs. "It's useful for inspiration, but it's still a tool, not a replacement for personal experience or expert advice," Babu underlines.

HEAR-T OUT!

B'luru singer Riddhi Rao turns introspection into music on her debut EP *Spiral Theory*

SRUTHI HEMACHANDRAN

EMOTIONAL honesty and self-discovery lie at the heart of *Spiral Theory*, the debut EP from Bangalore-based singer-songwriter **Riddhi Rao**. Through five deeply personal tracks, the emerging artiste explores recurring emotional patterns and the process of breaking free from cycles that no longer serve her.

The five-track EP: *Nice*, *Locked Up*, *Spiral*, *Too Much* and *Rise Up* traces an emotional journey through relationships and personal growth. "The songs are personal to me, since most of what I've written has come from introspection and an analysis of difficult emotions. The EP was inspired by what I could only describe as a spiral, and recognising patterns in my behaviour and relationships from different points in my life," says Rao.

Training in both Hindustani and Carnatic music laid the foundation for a style informed by a wide range of contemporary influences. Inspired by artistes such as Kendrick Lamar, Lauryn Hill and Michael Jackson, she wanted each track to stand on its own while contributing to a wider narrative. "Most of these songs began as questions I didn't have answers to yet," she reveals, adding that writing them persuaded her to sit with those feelings long enough to actually understand them and eventually let them go. She began pursuing music more seriously under the guidance of mentor Richard Andrew Dudley. "Richard sir has been my mentor for half a decade, and I couldn't be more grateful for his guidance. As an experienced producer and Grammy member, he brought a level of expertise to these songs that I learned a tremendous amount from," she beams.

The process also challenged some of her assumptions about collaboration and creativity and taught her to compromise. "I learned that accepting help from people who genuinely believed in the project was not the same as giving up creative control," she says. The city played an important role, as she shares, "Bengaluru's independent music scene is supportive and tightknit. I think the welcoming ecosystem is what made me comfortable enough to express myself through music."

As streaming platforms, social media and AI tools continue to redefine the music industry, independent artistes are navigating an increasingly crowded landscape. Visibility remains a challenge, but Rao believes that authenticity still resonates. With Spiral Theory, she hopes to create that connection through stories of honesty and self-reflection.

CITY READ

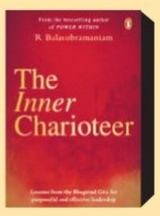
Vocalist awarded honorary fellowship from music school in the UK

Carnatic vocalist, academic and educator **Radhika Balakrishnan** was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, United Kingdom. The first Carnatic vocalist to ever achieve the fellowship was formally awarded at a ceremony held at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire for her significant contributions to arts, culture, education and for bringing Indian classical music into contemporary global environments. On the occasion, Radhika Balachandran said, "[The fellowship] represents recognition for the transformative power of Indian classical music in global artistic discourse. This award affirms what I have always believed: that great music transcends geography, language, and culture."

BOOK NOOK

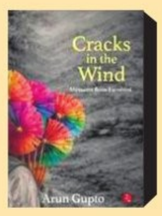
The One Hundred Nights of Hero
By Isabel Greenberg

Set in the Empire of Migdal Bavel, the novel follows Hero and Cherry, whose love is threatened by a cruel wager.



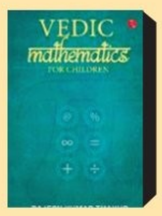
The Inner Charioteer
By Dr R Balasubramaniam

Modern leadership has a paradox at its heart, we rush to manage others before we have learned to govern ourselves. *The Inner Charioteer* turns to the Gita to address this, not as a distant text, but as a practical operating manual for human existence.



Cracks in the Wind: Memoirs from Lumbini
By Arun Gupto

Set in the village of Bahadurganj within Kapilvastu, Lumbini region of Nepal, this narrative unfolds through the eyes of Onu, the first-person narrator who recalls the tales of his past.



Vedic Mathematics for Children
By Rajesh Kumar Thakur

This book introduces children to the timeless techniques of Vedic Mathematics, designed to make problem-solving faster, simpler and more enjoyable with step-by-step explanations and engaging exercises meant to build the confidence of young.

ONE-WOMAN SHOW

Artiste Ranjitha Nagaraj performs *Sharmishte*, a theatrical production, written by Beluru Raghunandan, at Ravichandra Kalakshetra, JC Road | **KEVIN NASHON**

QUICKFIX

CURRY LEAVES CHUTNEY POWDER

INGREDIENTS

- **Curry leaves:** 1 cup
- **Garlic cloves:** 2
- **Cumin seeds:** 1 tbsp
- **Dried red chillies:** 2
- **Small piece tamarind**
- **Oil:** 1 tbsp
- **Salt to taste**

METHOD

- Heat oil and fry cumin seeds and red chillies. Add curry leaves and saute until they become crisp.
- Add garlic, tamarind and salt. Cool and grind into a thick chutney powder.

Contributed by **Radha A,** Hyderabad

ASK AN XPERT

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Crown Vet, Delhi.

My 5-month-old golden retriever puppy won't potty in her crate but keeps having accidents around the house despite frequent trips outdoors. Any housetraining advice?

A five-month-old golden retriever puppy is still developing reliable bladder control, making a consistent housetraining routine very important. Take her outdoors regularly, especially after eating, sleeping, playing and at frequent intervals throughout the day. Immediately reward outdoor toileting with treats or praise to strengthen positive habits. Keep a close watch indoors and restrict access to large areas when unsupervised. Any accidents should be cleaned thoroughly using enzymatic cleaners to eliminate lingering odours. Avoid punishment, as this may increase fear or confusion. If accidents continue despite regular training, a veterinary examination is recommended to exclude medical causes.

FITBIT

YOGA AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE: FIVE GENTLE PRACTICES TO TRY AT HOME

High blood pressure often has no obvious symptoms, so regular monitoring and medical care remain essential. Yoga cannot replace prescribed medication, walking, nutrition, sleep or other lifestyle measures. It can, however, complement them through gentle movement, unforced breathing and relaxation. The aim is not to perform difficult poses, but to move without strain and let the breath remain steady.

1. KATI CHAKRASANA (STANDING WAIST TWIST)

Stand with the feet comfortably apart and the knees soft. Turn the torso gently to the right, allowing the arms to move naturally. Return to the centre and turn to the left. Avoid forceful swinging or holding the breath. Repeat 6 to 8 rounds.

2. MARJARYASANA – BITILASANA (CAT-COW)

Come onto the hands and knees, with the hands under the shoulders and knees under the hips. Inhale and gently lift the chest; exhale and slowly round the spine. Keep the neck comfortable. Repeat 6 to 8 times.

3. SHEETALI OR SHEETKARI PRANAYAMA

For Sheetali, roll the tongue, inhale gently through it, close the mouth and exhale through the nose. If the tongue does not roll, keep the teeth lightly together, part the lips and inhale through the teeth for Sheetkari. Exhale through the nose. Practise 5 rounds without holding the breath. Skip it if cool air irritates the throat or chest.

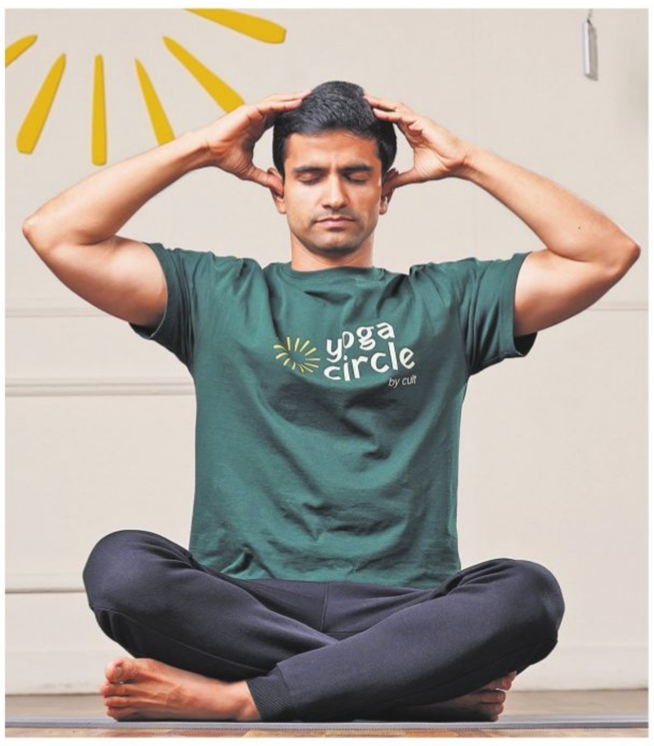
4. NADI SHODHANA PRANAYAMA

Close the right nostril and inhale through the left. Change sides and exhale through the right; inhale through the right, then change and exhale through the left. This completes one round. Continue slowly for 5 rounds without breath retention.

5. BHRAMARI PRANAYAMA

Sit comfortably. Inhale gently through the nose and make a soft humming sound while exhaling. Keep the face, jaw and shoulders relaxed. Repeat 5 to 7 rounds.

Move slowly and stop if you feel dizzy, breathless or unwell. People with uncontrolled blood pressure, chest discomfort or unusual symptoms should seek medical guidance. Avoid forceful pranayama, breath retention, strenuous holds, hot yoga and inversions unless cleared by a doctor.



By Naveen Sharma, Yoga Expert at Yoga Circle by Cult – a fitness and wellness platform

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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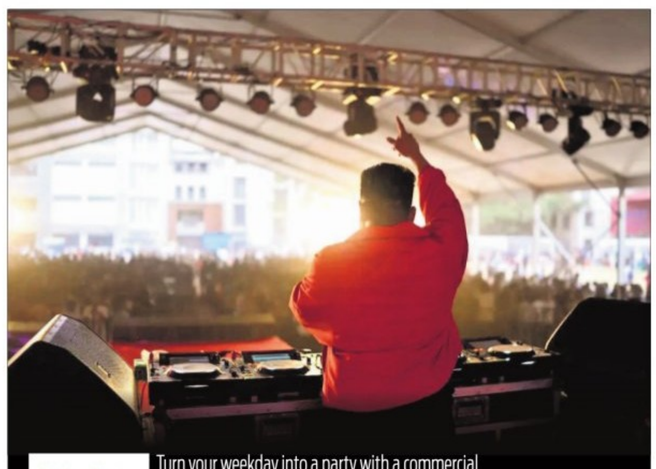
WHATWHENWHYWHERE



Hip-Hop Night

Turn your weekday into a party with a commercial Hip-Hop night featuring DJ Jonas Monteiro, supported by DJ Firex. Dance to energetic beats and take home a momentous experience.

WHEN: June 30, 7pm **WHERE:** TOCA Brigade and Terrace, Brigade Road **CALL:** 95388 66885

Stretch it Out

Immerse yourself in a unique style of yoga session that blends Ashtanga and Vinyasa with elements of Pilates, barre and functional fitness. Challenge your mind and body through this mindful experience.

WHEN: June 29, 9.30am onwards
WHERE: Jinvara, Avalahalli
CALL: 97411 53242

Mindful moments

Step into an immersive experience that blends technology, Indian philosophy and Japanese aesthetics. Take your friends along to experience interactive spaces inspired by nature, stillness and self-discovery.

WHEN: June 29, 10am **WHERE:** Phoenix Mall of Asia, Byatarayanapura
DETAILS: bookmyshow.in

Bollywood Jams

Enter the world of nostalgia with artiste **Boby Chakraborty** as she takes the stage. Gather with friends, enjoy the music and spend the day to its fullest.

WHEN: June 30, 6pm
WHERE: Silaa The Garden Cafe, Malleswaram
CALL: 90710 96565

Bake and Make

Indulge in the art of baking cupcakes and creating personalised caps in this beginner-friendly workshop. Perfect for anyone who wants a break or just to enjoy a fun-filled moment of art and creativity.

WHEN: June 29, 12pm onwards
WHERE: Hobby Ghar, Seshadripuram
CALL: 99862 55589

Cheers, Ladies!

Planning for a girls' night? Round up your friends for an evening of Retro, EDM music, food and cocktails at this event to enjoy a lively atmosphere filled with fun and chaos. Dress code is glamorous and chic.

WHEN: June 30, 8pm
WHERE: Happy Brew, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.in

Lunch Time

Take a break from your workday to relish a menu featuring a curated menu of authentic chinese flavours and a relaxed dining experience. Take your work buddies to a midday escape.

WHEN: June 29, 12.30pm **WHERE:** Shang Palace, Shangri-La, Palace Road **DETAILS:** district.in

ARTCORNER

A PAINTED GARDEN

Artist Taslim Jamal Sonaa's 'Bageechal' depicts a dreamlike garden filled with richly patterned plants, blooming flowers and birds

DAIDAI... ALE, ALE, ALE!

The football season is peaking and sporting anthems have started blaring through social media with Shakira setting the tone. Here are some all-time best songs that capture the spirit of the FIFA World Cup

El Rock del Mundial (1962)

Los Ramblers

Created for the 1962 FIFA World Cup in Chile, *El Rock del Mundial* is often regarded as the first 'official song' associated with a World Cup. Performed by Chilean rock band Los Ramblers and written by Jorge Rojas, the song mixed rock-and-roll rhythms with football chants and national pride. It became a massive success, and remains one of the best-selling singles in Chilean music history.

Un'estate Italiana (1989)

Giorgio Moroder and Gianna Nannini

Released ahead of the 1990 FIFA World Cup in Italy, *Un'estate Italiana* is widely regarded as the beginning of the modern World Cup anthem tradition. Composed by disco pioneer Giorgio Moroder and performed with Italian singer Gianna Nannini, the song combined soaring pop-rock melodies with unmistakable Italian drama. It debuted live before the Argentina-Cameroon opener on June 8, 1990, and remains one of football's most beloved tournament songs. Even decades later, its emotional chorus can still make fans want to scream 'Forza Italia!'

The Cup of Life / La Copa de la Vida (1998)

Ricky Martin

Nothing quite tops Ricky Martin's *The Cup of Life*, the official anthem of the 1998 FIFA World Cup. Written by Luis Gómez-Escolar, Desmond Child and Draco Rosa, the song was created after FIFA approached Martin for a tournament anthem. With its irresistible chorus, pounding percussion and endlessly chantable 'ale ale ale', the song quickly became a global phenomenon. Even today, the Samba-inspired anthem continues to erupt across stadiums and watch parties whenever football fever takes over. Billboard ranked it among the greatest songs of 1998 and international publications have repeatedly described it as the greatest World Cup anthem ever made.

The Time of Our Lives (2006)

Il Divo and Toni Braxton

This one was different. More like a ballad. *The Time of Our Lives* chose emotion and melody over beats and chants. Performed by operatic pop quartet Il Divo and American singer Toni Braxton for the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany, its soaring vocals and emotional delivery gave the tournament a sense of refined grandeur.

The 2026 World Cup will be held till July 19 in Mexico, Canada and the US

KRISHNA P S

WITH the World Cup in full swing, football anthems have already begun echoing across social media feeds. "The World Cup is one of the rare moments when the entire world moves to the same rhythm," FIFA president Gianni Infantino said during the launch of the upcoming tournament's first official single, *Lighter*, by American singer Jelly Roll and Mexican musician Carín Leon. Unfortunately, the song did not quite strike the right chord. Fans across the world quickly panned the track online.

Enter Shakira. Suddenly, the groove returned. Her official track *Dai Dai* (Come on!), featuring Nigerian star Burna Boy, appears to have rescued the World Cup music mood. Released in May, the music video has now crossed 260 million views.

Good...but still not quite like *Waka Waka*, some fans grumble. Well, that comparison may never go away. The 2010 anthem remains a gold standard for football songs, the kind that instantly transports listeners to crowded watch parties, vuvuzelas and nights filled with sporting thrill.

While fans have their fingers crossed, here are some of the world's most iconic football anthems that continue to add beauty to the beautiful game.

(Inputs from Parvana K B & Manisha V C S)

Waka Waka (This Time for Africa - 2010)

Shakira ft. Freshlyground

This was more than a football anthem. It was a cultural moment. *Waka Waka* captured the excitement surrounding the first World Cup hosted on African soil. The song blended Afrobeats-inspired rhythms, uplifting lyrics and the vibrant energy of South African band Freshlyground into something instantly universal. It crossed far beyond football fandom and became one of the defining pop songs of its era. Billboard called it the most successful World Cup song ever made, while Spotify lists it as the most-streamed FIFA World Cup anthem to date.

Live It Up (2018)

Nicky Jam ft. Will Smith and Era Istrefi

The official anthem of the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia leaned heavily into high-energy pop spectacle. Performed by Nicky Jam, Will Smith and Kosovar singer Era Istrefi, 'Live It Up' became notable for another reason too – FIFA abandoned the idea of producing a full World Cup album and instead focused on a standalone anthem. Critics complained that the lyrics felt generic, but the song's infectious rhythm helped it maintain popularity among fans.

Hayya Hayya (Better Together – 2022)

Trinidad Cardona, Davido and AISHA

Released as the first official soundtrack single for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, *Hayya Hayya (Better Together)* reflected FIFA's new multi-song approach to tournament music. Performed by American singer Trinidad Cardona, Nigerian Afrobeats star Davido and Qatari artist AISHA, the song blended pop, reggae and R&B influences. The Arabic word 'hayya' translates roughly to 'let's go' — a fitting phrase for football's biggest celebration.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Sanjuna Sathishkumar,** Aged 31 Years W/o. Krishnan Murugan, Residing at No. 410, Aryan pebble Bay Anam Enclave, Ashwathnagar, Thanisndra, Bangalore North, Dr. Shivarama Karanth Nagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru - 560077,have changed my name from **Sanjuna Sathishkumar** to **Sanjuna Satheeshkumar** vide affidavit dated 27/06/2026 sworn before advocate and notary M Rajendra, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHAANTHAKUMAR V,** S/o Venkatesh .K, age 37 years, R/o NO. 37, Anantheswara Nilaya, Near Muttaraya Swamy Temple, Vinayaka Layout, Dasanapura Hobli, Kadabagere, Bengaluru-562 130 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHANTHAKUMR V** (old name) to **SHAANTHAKUMAR V** (new name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHAANTHAKUMAR V** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25-06-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary **A. PRABHAKAR** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Surabhi Sai P. R.** D/o. Mr. P. Raghavendra Gupta, Aged 25 years, R/at No. 352, Vaatsalya, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Sahakara nagar Government Hospital, Canara Bank Layout, Kodigehalli, Bengaluru - 560 097. I state that in my Aadhar & PAN Card my name was shown as **Surabhi Sai P. R.** but in my Passport my name was mentioned as **Surabhi Sai** .Both names **Surabhi Sai P. R.** & **Surabhi Sai** pertains to me only. I declare that herein after my name will be **SURABHI SAI P. R.** (Surabhi Sai Palle Raghavendra) Vide affidavit dated 26.06.2026 sworn before Advocate & Notary C. N. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Mrs. Asma Tabassum Ahmed,** D/o. Late Mushtaq Ahmed, Aged about 52 years, Residing at MF 2/7, BDA Flats, BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 076, do hereby declare that **Asma Tabassum Ahmed, Asma Tabassum** and **Asma Ahmed** pertain to me alone and may be treated as belonging to one and the same person for all legal and official purposes. Vide affidavit dated 26.6.2026 sworn before Sumithra .N, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

ಪ್ರಮಾಣಪತ್ರ
ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ಸಂಜೀವಯ್ಯರವರ ಮಗ. ಸುಮಾರು 54 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸುಳ್ಳ ನಾನು ನಂ.11, 2ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಂಜೀವಿನಿ ನಗರ, ಹೆಗ್ಗನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560091 ಈ ವಿಳಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಾಗಿದ್ದು ನನಗೆ ಪ್ರೇಮರವರ ಜೊತೆ ವಿವಾಹವಾಗಿದ್ದು ನಮ್ಮ ಮಗಳ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು **ಪುಣ್ಯಾಜೆ** ಯಿಂದ **ಸಮೃದ್ಧ ಸ್ಫಟಿಕ.ಜೆ** ಎಂದು ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಿದ್ದು 18-06-2026 ರಂದು ನೋಟರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಕೀಲರಾದ ಅನಿತಾ ಬಾಯಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸಿರುತ್ತೇವೆ.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr. Mujeeb khan (new name)** previously called as **Mujeeb sattar khan (Old name)**, aged 66 years, S/o of Sattar Khan, residing at no.130, 1st cross Rashad nagar govindpura main road, arabic college, bangalore North bengaluru - 560045, do hereby I declare that I have changed my name from **Mujjeb sattar khan** to **Mujeeb khan** vide affidavit dated **27/07/2026** sworn before notary **S.R Nanjunda swamy,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CHOWDAMMA**, Aged about 48 Years W/o. Chelvugowda, Residing at No.57/58, 23rd Cross, Maruthinagar, Ittamadu, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560085, declaring that both **CHOWDAMMA and PREMA M** Names are one and the same person and belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 01.06.2026, sworn before notary S.N Madhu, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ALMAS** (Old Name), aged about 33 years, W/o. SHAH ARABIA HASSAN, RESIDING AT NO.113-B, VEMAGAL, A-BLOCK, KOLAR-563101, KARNATAKA, declare that I have changed my name from **ALMAS** (Old Name) to **ALMAAS HASSAN** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **ALMAAS HASSAN** (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 27/06/2026 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KRISHNARAJA RAO KEREKATTE,** S/o. Bhasker Rao Kerekatte, residing at Flat #104, Renaissance Woods-3, Jarakabande Kaval, HVV Valley, Jalahalli West, Bengaluru 560015, have changed my name to **KRISHNARAJ RAO**, vide Affidavit Dated: 25/06/2026 sworn before Notary **MEER HASSAN,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Vedavathi.G.V @ Vedavati @ Latha Raju,** aged about 63 years, D/o.Late. Sri.G.K.Venkatappa, residing at No.36, Sumukha, 2nd Main, Dollars Colony, 4th Phase, JP Nagar, Bengaluru-560 078,
I have changed my name from **" Vedavati @ Latha Raju,** to **"Vedavathi.G.V "** for all purpose. That henceforth, I shall be known and called by the name **"VEDAVATHI.G.V"** only. Vide affidavit dated 27-06-2026 before "Puttaramaiah" Notary Public, Bengaluru".

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JIHAH ZAINAB PHIROZ,** D/o. Sri. Subaidu Phiroz, Aged about 19 years, presently Residing at No. 23, Cunningham Road, Next to Cunningham Classic Building, Shivajinagar, Bangalore - 560 001, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JIHAH ZAINAB PHIROZ** to **JIA ZAINAB** vide affidavit dated 27.06.2026 sworn before N. Kanchivaradaraju, Advocate & Notary Public, Government of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr. A G SRINIVASA MURTHY S/o Chikka Chikkanna** Residing at No 89, Dandu Chikkanna Layout, Amruthahalli, Bengaluru - 560092. Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name from **SREENIVAS @ SRINIVAS To A G SRINIVASA MURTHY** vide affidavit dated.24.06.2026 sworn to before Notary Aruna V, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VINAYKUMAR VIJAYKUMAR PARSATWAR,** aged 41 years, S/o Vijaykumar Parsatwar, residing at No.1092, Jannat, Lalbahadur Shastri Nagar, Anjanapura 2nd BDA Block, J.P. Nagar 9th Phase, Anjanapura, Bangalore-560062. State that I am also called as **VINAY PARSATWAR @ VINAYKUMAR PARSATWAR @ VINAYKUMAR VIJAYKUMAR PARSATWAR (Old Name).** In future I would like to retain my name as **VINAY PARSATWAR (New Name),** for all future correspondence vide affidavit dated 25/06/2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary Mahesha J, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, JINAN BABU AMMATHODI RAVINDRAN, Son of Ammathodi Ravindran, residing at No.412/D, 2nd Main, B Block, Near Vinayaka Temple, Vinayaka Nagar, Konena Agrahara, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560017, have changed my name from **JINAN BABU AMMATHODI RAVEENDRAN** to **JINAN BABU AMMATHODI RAVINDRAN,** vide affidavit dated 24/6/2026 sworn to before A R Muneer Ahmed Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KARTHIK VIJAY G.P.,** S/o H.G. Prabhakaran, aged about 20 years, residing at No.126, V.P. Road, Near Kaveri Convent, Madivala, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560068, declare that my correct name is **KARTHIK VIJAY G.P.,** my father's name is **H.G. Prabhakaran,** and my correct address is No.126, V.P. Road, Near Kaveri Convent, Madivala, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560068. My Aadhaar Card No. ** ** 6018 wrongly shows my name as **"Abdul Wajid"**, my father's name as "Abdul Waheed", and my address as No.256, 8th Cross, Halal Street, Muslim Colony, Post Arabic College, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560045. I have executed an affidavit dated 22-06-2026 before **Smt. Hemalatha P.**, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru. Henceforth, my correct particulars shall be treated as stated above for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **LAXMIKANTH PATRA,** S/o Ratan Patra, age 53 yeras, R/at Flat No. A2/104, VHBC PalmHaven 2, Block A, Doddabele Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru-560 060 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **LAKSHMIKANT RATANPATRA, LAKSHMI KANTHA PATRA** and **LAXMIKANTH PATRA** are one the same and refers to me only, now I have changed my name from **LAKSHMIKANT RATAN PATRA /LAKSHMI KANTHA PATRA** to **LAXMIKANTHPATRA**, my correct date of birth is 01.01.1973but in Aadhar Card it is wrongly mentioned as01.06.1973, vide affidavit dated 11th June2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary **T.MALLIKARJUNA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NIMISH AGRAWAL,** aged about 19 years, S/o. ASHISH KUMAR AGRAWAL, residing at E504, Orchid Lakeview Apartment, Bellandur Village, Bengaluru 560 103, Karnataka, I have changed my name from **"NIMISH ASHISH AGRAWAL"** to **"NIMISH AGRAWAL"** Vide affidavit dated 26-06-2026 before P.Nanjunda, Notary Public, Bengaluru".

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SUBRAMANI K,** aged about 47 years, Father of Y K S GNANENDRA KUMAR Residing at House No.72/1, 6th Cross, Manjunatha Nagar, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BHEEMANATHAM KRISHNAPPAGARI SUBRAMANYAM** to **SUBRAMANI K,** as per my original records/documents and to avoid future complication in my Son's School records and other documents, vide Affidavit dated : 27.06.2026, sworn to before K V Jagannath Reddy, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr.GOPAL S/o Venkatramanappa** Residing at Ramaiah Layout, Ganigarapalya, Thalaghattapura Bengaluru -560062, Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my minor daughter's name from **VEDIKA APARNA ONTERLU To VEDIKA APARNA,** vide affidavit dated.18.06.2026 sworn to before Notary Puttaramaiah, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GEETHA.N,** age 52 years, Wio Nithyananda, residing at No.191. Farm Homes, Sorahunase. Varthur, Bangalore-560 087,
I hereby declare that all the names **GEETHA.N, GEETA TUNGAWWA MARIYAPPAGOUDAR and GEETHA CHANDRAGOUDA MARIYAPPAGOUDRA** belongs to one and the same person ie.. myself. I hereby declare that in future I will continue my name as **GEETHA.N** for all practical purpose Vide Affidavit Date 22/6/26 Advocate and Notary by **Peethambaran**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Surekha. G W/o. Shivakumar, aged about 39 years, R/at.: No. 28/9-5, Gangarudrappa Layout, Kodigehalli Post, Benglauru North Taluk, Bengaluru - 560112, I declare that below mentioned my son names **"S. VISMAY,** and **"VISMAY NAYAK. S"** referred to one and the same person belongs to my son only. I declare that, for all future records update purpose here afterwards my son's name remains as **"S. VISMAY"** only, vide affidavit dated 25/6/2026 sworn to before B Prasanna Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MOHAMMED RAEES** S/o Mohammed Hameed, age 18 years, R/at No. 1196, 7th Main, K N Extension, Yeshwanthpura, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560 022 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **MOHAMMED RAEES** and **M D RAEES** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 15th June 2026, sworn before advocate and Notary **K. MOHAN** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Ms. ANURADHA MUKHERJI,** D/o Arun Mukerji, age 41 years, R/at No.23146, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, Gunjur Village, Varthur Main Road, Bengaluru-560 087 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ANURADHA JAISWAL** to **ANURADHA MUKHERJI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **ANURADHA MUKHERJI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 26-05-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D.S. CHANDRAKANTH** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **YELLA NAVEEN KUMAR,** (New Name) previously called **YALLA NAVEEN KUMAR,** S/o. Yella. Lakshmikanth, presently residing at Flat No. 112, Block-A, Oakstone Lakeview Apartment, Edga Road, Varthur, Bangalore-560087. Hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **'YALLA NAVEEN KUMAR'** to **'YELLA NAVEEN KUMAR',** vide Affidavit dated 27.06.2026, Sworn before Advocate and Notary A.M.Rajasekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KARISHMA JAIN**, W/o. RAHUL KUMAR JAIN, residing at #903, Platinum Ananda Apartment 9th Floor, 99/2-1, Mahantara Layout, Bull Temple Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **KARISHMA RAHUL KUMAR JAIN** to **KARISHMA JAIN,** vide affidavit dated 27.06.2026, sworn to before C N Chandrashekhar, Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MANJULA (Existing name of Spouse as per NOK) Spouse No. 821129R Rank NC(E) T Name: KP Raju C/o. HWO Office, Command Hospital, Bangalore, Karnataka -560007 and permanent resident of Peresandra, Chikkaballapur, Karnataka Pin code 562 104, have changed my name from MANJULA to V. MANJULA vide affidavit dated 23/06/2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RUHEENA A, D.O.B: 23.01.1998, D/o. Mohamed Adil, Residing at Urdu School Main Road, Upparahalli, Tumkur -572102, Karnataka, have changed my name to RUHEENA vide affidavit dated: 27.06.2026 before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Surekha. G W/o. Shivakumar, aged about 39 years, R/at.: No. 28/9-5, Gangarudrappa Layout, Kodigehalli Post, Benglauru North Taluk, Bengaluru - 560112, I declare that below mentioned my daughter names **"S. DEEKSHA",** and **"DEEKSHA NAYAK. S"** referred to one and the same person belongs to my daughter only. I declare that, for all future records update purpose here afterwards my daughter's name remains as **"S. DEEKSHA"** only, vide affidavit dated 25/6/2026 sworn to before B Prasanna Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

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The glamour in *Halka Don* will not be just for the sake of it: Divya Pillai

The actor, who has worked in Malayalam, Telugu and Tamil films, is set to mark her Kannada debut with Chala's Kannada-Telugu bilingual

CE FEATURES

A still from the film

FOR Divya Pillai, who has spent over a decade building a career in Malayalam cinema, stepping into another industry isn't necessarily about chasing a bigger market. It's more about finding a role that doesn't resemble the last one.

After close to 25 films across Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu, Divya is stepping into Kannada with *Halka Don*, Chala's Kannada-Telugu bilingual produced by KP Sreekanth under Venus Entertainers. Starring Pramod and Amrutha Iyengar, the film also features Sai Kumar, Ramesh Indira and Jyothi Poorvaj in pivotal roles.

Oddly enough, the film also brings her back to a city where everything began. "My first-ever film, *Ayal Njanalla*, was shot in Bengaluru almost 11 years ago. Coming back now, for my first Kannada film, feels like I've completed a circle. The city still brings back memories from that first schedule. It feels special to return."

Divya's recent releases were *Bhishmar* with Gyan Srinivasan and the Telugu film *Honey* opposite Naveen Chandra. She is also reuniting with Fahadh Faasil after more than a decade for another project made under Arka Mediaworks. While Kannada cinema wasn't on her checklist, she sees it as a natural next step. "I've never wanted to limit myself to one language," she says. "Every industry has a different way of telling stories. Malayalam gave me my foundation, but as an actor, you keep looking for experiences that challenge you."

That challenge arrived in the form of *Halka Don*. "I've mostly played deglamorous roles in Malayalam films, and got to play serious characters in Telugu. This is a dark comedy, and what fascinated me was that my character doesn't have dialogues. Everything had to be communicated through expressions. I genuinely believe your eyes can say more than words if the moment is written well," says Divya, who shares that the role also carries a glamorous streak, which is something audiences haven't quite associated with her. "There is the oomph element, which will be my first attempt at such a role, and it isn't glamour for the sake of glamour. It's simply another colour in the character. As actors, we get typecast very easily, and I consciously look for roles that take me away from what people expect."

Interestingly, her test for choosing a script remains surprisingly simple. "I always ask myself one question. If this character disappears from the film, does the story lose something? If the answer is yes, then I know there's a reason for me to do it. That's exactly what happened with *Halka Don*."

With cinematography by Satya Hegde and music by V Harikrishna, *Halka Don* is currently under production.

Divya Pillai

CINEMA TAUGHT ME PATIENCE: DEVANURU CHANDRU

Devanuru Chandru

Tracing *Gramayana* to his village, Devanuru, director Devanuru Chandru speaks about working with Vinay Rajkumar, Megha Shetty, Yogi and the ensemble ahead of its July 3 release

A SHARADHAA

DEVANURU is not just a place that sits on the margins of director Devanuru Chandru's name; it is the centre of his first film, *Gramayana*. "Everything in this film comes from there," he says, referring to the village where he grew up.

That lived world has now been translated into cinema, with Vinay Rajkumar stepping in as Sixth Sense Seena, a character who sits somewhere between instinct and unrest, myth and memory. "Even though Seena is the lens, this is not a single-hero story. Every character carries equal weight. Nobody is fully right or fully wrong. Everyone has their own version of truth," says the filmmaker. The trailer has already stirred curiosity for its grounded tone and mystery, but Chandru is clear that the film is not built for effect. "It is drawn from what I saw and penned between 2007 and 2013, a time when Karnataka was going through political chaos."

Produced by G Manoharan and Naveen Manoharan, (Lahari Films) *Gramayana* brings together an ensemble that includes Vinay, Yogi as the antagonist, Megha Shetty, Achyuth Kumar, Gopal Krishna Deshpande, and Arun Sagar, among others. The film has music by Poornachandra Tejaswi, and cinematography by Santhosh Rai Pathaje.

Chandru's journey to this point runs through Abhinaya Taranga, where he performed in over 1,500 plays before assisting on films such as Maleyalli Jotheyalli and Sakkare. "Theatre gave me discipline. Cinema taught me patience," he says.

At one point, he recalls, the script became almost unmanageable. "When I started writing in 2007 and continued for years, it went up to nearly 1500 pages," he says. "What you are seeing now is only a portion of that world, focused on a specific stretch of time."

Vinay Rajkumar's entry into the project came after multiple casting setbacks. The story was narrated to several actors, but it did not move forward. "With Vinay, it clicked. He understood the physicality, the silence, and the unpredictability of the role. He had to be massy, but also restrained. Grounded, but slightly unstable," says Chandru.

Alongside him, Megha Shetty as Kusuma and Aparna as the mother character form the emotional core of the film. Chandru is clear that even characters like Kare Beku, played by Yogi, are not written as one-note. "I never write people as symbols. They come from observation."

That realism extends to the way the film was shot. "I cannot work inside sets. My brain stops working." Much of *Gramayana* was filmed in real locations, with Devanuru itself becoming part of the process. "The villagers slowly became part of the film," he says. "At first, they were curious. Then they became familiar. Eventually, they blended into it, standing around, walking into frames, sometimes even helping without being asked. That energy cannot be manufactured."

Interestingly, he notes that the idea of *Gramayana* predates the wave of rural narratives that later found mainstream success in films like Rangasthalam and Kantara. "Back then, people were unsure of this tone prepared by me. It was difficult to convince producers. They did not know how to place it."

But Chandru never altered his writing to fit trends. "It has songs, it has action, it has mass elements, but the drama is the backbone," he says. "It is not a genre film. It is Seena's journey, and through him, the journey of a place and its people."

As the release approaches on July 3, Chandru remains in the same honesty that has shaped the film. "Making the film was personal. If it connects, it will be because people recognise their own *Gramayana* in it."

On the sets of Gramayana

The director with Vinay Rajkumar

Prem to headline *Kempambudhi*, based on Janagere Venkataramaiah's novel

The film features Prem as Bengaluru founder Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, and the teaser was released on Hombale Music

CE FEATURES

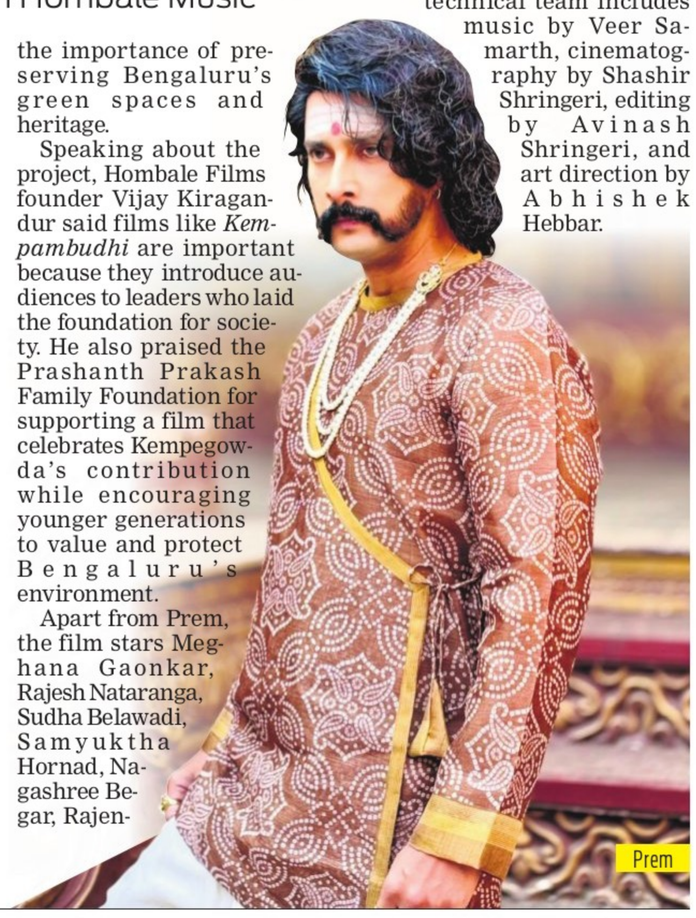
THE teaser of *Kempambudhi* is out, giving audiences a first look at a film that brings the life of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, the founder of Bengaluru, to the big screen. Starring 'Nenapirali' Prem in the lead role, the film traces the journey of the visionary ruler whose ideas and leadership continue to be closely associated with the city's history.

Presented by the Prashanth Prakash Family Foundation in collaboration with Hombale Music, *Kempambudhi* is based on the well-known novel by Janagere Venkataramaiah. Directed by Ramesh Begar, the film is set against the backdrop of old Bengaluru and tells the story of Kempegowda through history, folklore and cultural traditions.

The film also looks at how his vision for Bengaluru remains relevant today. It highlights the city's journey from the lush 'Garden City' to the fast-growing Silicon Valley of India, while reminding audiences of the importance of preserving Bengaluru's green spaces and heritage.

Speaking about the project, Hombale Films founder Vijay Kiragandur said films like *Kempambudhi* are important because they introduce audiences to leaders who laid the foundation for society. He also praised the Prashanth Prakash Family Foundation for supporting a film that celebrates Kempegowda's contribution while encouraging younger generations to value and protect Bengaluru's environment.

Apart from Prem, the film stars Meghana Gaonkar, Rajesh Nataranga, Sudha Belawadi, Samyuktha Hornad, Nagashree Begar, Rajendra Karanth, Ramesh Pandit, BL Ravikumar, and Nataraj Rao in important roles. The technical team includes music by Veer Samarth, cinematography by Shashir Shringeri, editing by Avinash Shringeri, and art direction by Abhishek Hebbar.


Prem

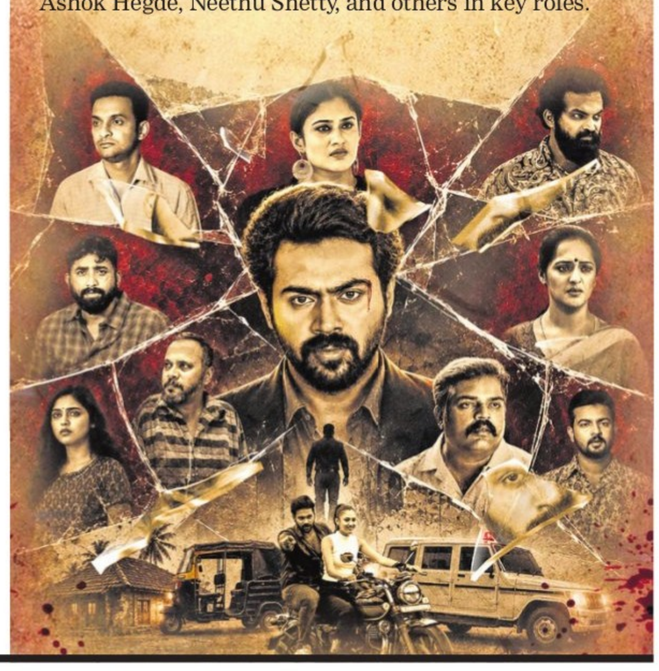
Aparadhi Naanalla to hit theatres this week

CE FEATURES

APARADHI Naanalla, which marks the directorial debut of Yashanth Kalladka, is set to hit theatres on July 3. The film's trailer showed glimpses of a prison-set story centered on a murder and the lives of three inmates. It traces events inside the jail and how they connect to a case outside, suggesting that not everyone in prison is necessarily guilty. Backed by SLV Colours Anugraha Films, the film is produced by Ajith Chouta Devasya. Yashanth Kalladka, who has worked in the industry for over two decades, makes his directorial debut with this project. Vikram Devadiga and Sandeep Shetty are the executive producers.

The director said the film is based on a real incident and was later adapted into a screenplay with added cinematic elements. He added that the title reflects a simple idea: many people end up in jail even if they are not actual offenders. Lead actor Arjun Dev said he would not reveal much about the story, adding that it would spoil the experience. He joked that if he spoke more, the director would become the "real culprit."

Actor Amrutha Murthy, who plays a doctor in the film, said the team consists mostly of newcomers. She also spoke about working with Arjun Kapikad, known in Mangaluru as "Tiger," and said the set had a good working atmosphere. The cast includes Pramod Shetty, Navil Padi, Ashok Hegde, Neethu Shetty, and others in key roles.



EVERY YEAR AFTER RENEWED FOR S2

CE FEATURES

PRIME Video has renewed the television adaptation of Carley Fortune's best-seller '*Every Summer After*' for the second season. The announcement was made at Prime Video's Obsessed Fest on Saturday. The first season ended with a cliffhanger where Charlie was set up to meet Alice. The new season will be based on Fortune's sequel-like book to '*Every Summer After*', '*One Golden Summer*'. That book focuses on Charlie Florek's (Michael Bradway) love story.

While Fortune's 'Every Summer After' follows the second-chance romance of Percy and Sam, who go from friends to lovers, '*One Golden Summer*' is told from the perspective of photographer Alice Everly, who took a key shot of Charlie, Sam, and Percy in the banana boat the summer when she was 17. The series also features Aurora Perrineau as Percy's best friend Chantal, Abigail Cowen as her childhood best friend Delilah, and Joseph Chiu as Sam's best friend Jordie.